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NOTICE TO READERS: * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Lukanov Begins Consultations on Cabinet

AU0502201990 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] On 5 February, Andrey Lukanov, the newly elected chairman of the Council of Ministers, began consultations on forming the new government. Meetings took place with representatives of political parties and social forces, as well as with noted figures, who do not belong to political parties. The consultations continue.

Lukanov Addresses Opening of Roundtable Talks

AU0602093190 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0815 GMT 6 Feb 90

[Speech by Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov at the opening of the roundtable talks at the Sofia People's Palace of Culture on 6 February—live]

[Text] I will speak briefly. I would like to express sincere gratitude to all participants in the roundtable for their past cooperation. The roundtable is an unprecedented event in Bulgaria's political history. Its beginning was not easy, but I think that we have already covered a considerable distance together since the beginning of January 1990, when we gathered for the first time to discuss important, crucial, and organizational questions

I think that the roundtable has proved several things at this stage. It proved that a real political [?change] emerged and is developing in Bulgaria, and that it is possible, regardless of differences in the philosophical, political, and practical views, to conduct a civilized dialogue. It does not matter that at certain moments this dialogue was characterized by rather energetic interjections and declarations. The roundtable also confirmed that not only are general discussions possible, but also practical problems can be discussed and practical solutions may be dealt with, and that practical goals can be achieved.

The challenge of the roundtable at this point and the expectations of our public from it are precisely related to this issue, namely the transition to practical debates, to a more businesslike stage in the work of the roundtable.

I sincerely wish for all participants that this businesslike stage may proceed in a constructive spirit and end with generally acceptable solutions.

This, in my opinion, is of tremendous importance for the nature of the Bulgarian transition to a democratic construction of society. It is of great importance for the work of the official institutions of our state, for the National Assembly, as well as for the government

Speaking now on behalf of the government, I would like to express the government's readiness to consult with roundtable participants on all essential issues of its activities, and thus, not only guarantee the opportunity for all participants to obtain information and express their opinions on the questions on the agenda of the new government, but also to influence the nature and essence of the government's decisions.

This, in my opinion, is one of the methods of implementing a more extensive national consensus on urgent measures that are expected from the new government. I repeat, I am ready—and I am convinced this also applies to the members of the new government—to cooperate actively with the roundtable and with its participants on the important and urgent problems that are expecting their solution.

We shall be very glad, of course, if some of the participants in this roundtable respond to the invitation to participate in the new government. This should be discussed [words indistinct].

Once more, I wish you all success in your difficult tasks assumed for the sake of our country, for the sake of democracy in Bulgaria, and I am grateful for the friendly feelings expressed and about the relations we have developed, which I hope we shall preserve and further cultivate.

Thank you.

'Strike Epidemic' Spreads Across Country

AU0602090190 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 3 Feb 90 p 7

[Unsigned report: "Escalation of Tension"]

[Text] The number of declarations, warnings, and signals about forthcoming strikes that is being submitted to our editorial board is increasing and threatens to turn into an avalanche. We are incapable of publishing all these materials, but they should not be passed over in silence.

This is what happened over the last two days.

A declaration of the collective from the Kremikovtsi Company metallurgical equipment production plant announces a 24-hour real warning strike scheduled for 8 February because of the workers demands not having been satisfied.

The indefinite strike of the Balkanbas miners from the Kachulka mine in Sliven has been announced.

A real strike was announced by the drivers from the Vidin "Freight Cars" Automobile enterprise. According to our information, the urgent measures adopted by the municipal people's council for providing other vehicles for transporting the necessary supplies of food stores has somewhat alleviated the possible results of the strike.

The symbolic strike of the Veliko Marinov ceramic factory demanding total economic and legal independence of the enterprise continues.

The shelves of meat stores in Plovdiv have been empty for the last two days, as we were informed yesterday. This situation is caused by a veterinarians' strike.

A statement of the Bobov Dol Thermoelectric Power Station collective supports the proposals and demands of the Communists from the Dimo Dichev Thermoelectric Power Station published on 26 January, insisting that common sense should prevail and strikes should be discontinued in February 1990.

Nearly the same demands are voiced in a declaration issued by the collectives of the power production enterprises in Pernik and Dimitrovgrad.

The strike of the Sofia elevator technicians was joined by workers from Silistra.

We could go on and on enumerating such events. I stress that the energy workers, for the time being, endorse the opinion of their colleagues from the Dimo Dichev Thermoelectric Power Station, urging an end to the "strike epidemic" in the economic sphere. It would be worth listening to them because even one energy-producing enterprises on strike could paralyze our economy.

We are not contesting the justification of any demand, but here is a letter worth citing:

"Every worker in the energy sector should receive the wages he demands. Everyone should be provided with a large and luxuriously furnished apartment; the number of working years required for retirement should be limited to 10 years for men, and five years for women, regardless of age. We claim the right of asking whatever comes to our minds. So much for irony." This statement is signed with the illegible signatures of an even more vague strike committee, and shows a sense of humor, but the situation is truly alarming.

The avalanche of protests against the strike wave is also expanding. An increasing number of requests to rescue the national economy is being submitted. The reaction of the agricultural workers is particularly sharp. This is understandable, but it results in the confrontation of different groups of working people who oppose each other, despite the fact that they are equal.

Should we add more facts and more new data to the chronicle of confrontation?

Podkrepa Association Formed at Bulgarian Radio

AU0502220490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] An association of the Independent Podkrepa Labor Federation was founded by a constituent meeting at the Bulgarian Radio.

After a detailed discussion, the members adhered to the goals and principles incorporated in the federation's charter and program declaration. At their meeting, they declared that they will support with all their forces and by all means possible the process of fundamentally renewing Bulgaria in the name of democracy, economic security, social justice, freedom, and dignity of all citizens.

Bulgarian People's Party Founded

AU0502205090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] BTA has received an announcement, according to which a Bulgarian People's Party [bulgarska narodna partiya] has been founded. It has been pointed out that the party has representatives in the United States, Canada, the FRG, Austria, and Spain, and has been authorized by them to represent them in Bulgaria.

The document points out that the Bulgarian People's Party supports the comprehensive guarantee of the right to work and the related principles of freedom, equality, justice, solidarity, and humanism.

The document points out that only the total recognition and observance of those principles, without distinction of race, sex, and religion, can guarantee the protection of human dignity.

The Bulgarian People's Party rejects violence and dictatorship and adheres to the establishment of an European federation.

In order to implement its political platform, the Bulgarian People's Party demands to participate in the roundtable on the side of the democratic forces, the announcement reads.

BCP Congress 3d Day Proceedings, Speakers

AU0502142890 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 2 Feb 90 p 1

["Information Report" on the third day of the 14th Bulgarian Communist Party Extraordinary Congress in Sofia]

[Text] The 14th BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] Extraordinary Congress continued its work at the People's Palace of Culture. The morning session was chaired by Krasimir Mirev, representative of the Razgrad Oblast delegates. Petur Mladenov submitted the view of the Congress Sessions Leadership Bureau on requests that the forum should deal with the party status of Communists, who according to the report and to certain delegates' statements, have disgraced themselves. It was proposed that this question should be discussed by a specialized organ expected to be elected at the congress. This point of view was supported by 2,764 votes "for", 30 "against", and 5 "abstaining."

Georgi Zhekov, delegate from the Khaskovo Municipality; Todor Gerov, delegate from the Gotse Delchev Municipality; Professor Ivan Nikolov, a public figure from Sofia; Stoyan Mikhaylov, delegate from the Botevgrad Municipality; and Vasil Donchev, delegate from the Shumen Municipality, took the floor at the session.

Evtim Stoimenov, chairman of the Commission on Personal Petitions, Complaints, and Applications to the Congress, read a report of the commission. The report was adopted with 2,777 votes "for", 5 "against", and 10 "abstaining." (The report is published under separate cover).

Following the recess, the session was chaired by Dimo Uzunov, chairman of the Mandate Commission. The floor was given to Belcho Belvchev, member of the Commission on the Political Declaration, who read a report. (The report is published under separate cover). The debates on the document were pursued with interjections and comments.

The afternoon session was chaired by Vasil Manovski, representative of the Sofia Oblast delegates. The session opened with a vote on the proposal to interrupt debates on the Political Declaration Draft, which was submitted by some delegates.

Speaking on behalf of the Commission for the Manifesto, Belcho Belchev explained the views of the commission on proposals considered expedient and worthy of being included in the draft manifesto.

No proposals related to the name of the document, namely to the question of whether it should it be called a manifesto, or a declaration, were submitted to separate voting, so that the congress expressed its preference for the name "manifesto" with 2,271 votes "for", 504 votes "against", and 17 "abstaining."

The delegates further proceeded toward voting on the project of the proposals submitted on amendments and addenda.

The congress approved the Manifesto on Democratic Socialism (with 2,769 votes "for", 11 "against", and 12 "abstaining"). (The document will be published under separate cover).

The draft statute of the BCP was discussed. A statement of the commission on its preparation was delivered by Andrey Lukanov.

Proposals on the method of electing the party chairman were discussed. The debates focused on the question of whether he should be elected directly by the congress, or by a supreme party council. The following results were obtained on this issue: 2,461 delegates voted "for", 311 voted "against", and 20 delegates "abstained", after which the following decision was adopted: "The Supreme BCP Council elects the Presidency, which consists of a chairman, deputy chairmen, and secretary, and members of the Presidency."

The new BCP Statute was approved by 2,222 delegates, while 383 delegates voted against it, and 42 abstained from voting. (The documents will be published under separate cover).

The proposal of the delegates conference on the composition of a future supreme party council, a central commission on party ethics, and a central finance-auditing commission were discussed at a meeting behind closed doors.

Considering that the congress continued throughout the night, we will publish further information on its work in our next issue.

BCP Parliamentary Group Discusses Changes

AU0602094190 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 3 Feb 90 p 3

[Unsigned report: "Session of BCP Parliamentary Group"]

[Text] Yesterday morning, immediately preceding the National Assembly Session, a session of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] Parliamentary Group took place.

The deputies were informed that the Supreme Party Council elected at the 14th Extraordinary BCP Congress discussed the resignation of the government. The basic view was confirmed that the question of the government is within the exclusive competence of the National Assembly and should be resolved on a constitutional basis.

Andrey Lukanov stated: We insist that only the National Assembly is entitled to elect the government. The Supreme Party Council expressed the view that I should "leave" party work and "transfer my activities" to the government, naturally, provided that I should be approved. Thank your for your trust. I did not work for a very long time as chairman of the Parliamentary Group, but these months seemed like years. I wish the group further success!

Rumen Serbezov, secretary of Supreme Party Council Presidium, was proposed as chairman of the group. Deputies Stefan Staykov, Nacho Papazov, Ivan Prumov, Ivan Pekhlivanov, Andrey Lukanov, Konstantin Atanasov, and Peko Takov further took the floor. Nice words were said, but also critical remarks were addressed to the candidate, which he is expected to take into consideration.

All votes supported Rumen Serbezov, as a result of which he was elected chairman of the BCP Parliamentary Group.

The resignation of the government evoked lively comments. National Assembly Deputies Slavcho Trunski, Khristo Dobrev, Vasil Nedev, Ilya Gunchev, Zhivko Zhivkov, Vladimir Lazarov, Krustyu Trichkov, Mincho Semov, Ivan Iliev, Aleksandur Yankov, Georgi Nachev, Vasil Mruchkov, Ilcho Dimitrov, Makop Dakov, Khristina Pepeldzhiyska, and Stefan Staynov made statements on the subject and expressed their opinions on the proposal of electing Andrey Lukanov as government leader.

Questions related to the improvement of the group's activities and the full participation of its members in parliamentary life were discussed.

Lilov's Comment After 14th BCP Congress

AU0602091590 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 3 Feb 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Aleksandur Lilov for RABOTNICHESKO DELO"]

[Text] Immediately following the closing session of the 14th Extraordinary BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] Congress, Aleksandur Lilov, chairman of the Supreme Party Council gave an interview to RABOTNICHESKO DELO on the question: How do you intend to start your work as chairman of the BCP Supreme Party Council:

[Lilov] I would like to start with persevering and businesslike work so that our party may overcome the situation in which it is currently involved and be capable of restructuring in deeds and not in words. The party's social prestige and the people's confidence in it should be restored. The BCP should successfully prepare for the next elections and propose a new policy and a new program for Bulgaria's development to our people.

BCP Supreme Council Membership List

AU0502150090 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 3 Feb 90 p 2

[List of members of the Bulgarian Communist Party (BCP) Supreme Soviet elected by the 14th BCP Extraordinary Congress in Sofia on 2 February]

[Text] Aleksandur Vasilev Lilov Asen Veniaminov Zhablenski

Aleksandur Vasilev Mirchev Asen Stefanov Ganev

Aleksandur Krustev Strezov Atanas Georgiev Semerdzhiev

Aleksandur Trifonov Tomov Atanas Dimitrov Kaludov

Aleksandur Yankov Dimov Atanas Ivanov Ashminov

Amira Dimitrov Mitkov Belcho Antonov Belchev

Andon Stankov Andonov Benislav Ivanov Vanev

Andrey Karlov Lukanov Boyko Georgiev Dimitrov

Andrey Kirilov Andreev Boris Iliev Dimovski

Anton Marinov Grigorov Boris Stefanov Todorov

Valentin Dachev Starchev Dimo Dobrev Uzunov

Valentina Stoyneva Stoykova Dobri Marinov Dzhurov

Valeri Lyubenov Tsekov Dobri Stefanov Gandev

Valeri Nisim Petrov Dobri Tonev Rangelov

Vasil Arsov Poptodorov Dobrin Spasov Iliev

Vasil Zhelyazkov Mruchkov Doncho Asenov Andonov

Vasil Iliev Uzunov Encho Ivanov Stankov

Vasil Nedev Stoyanov Zhan Vasilev Videnov

Vasil Tsvetkov Vulov Zhelyu Kolev Zhelev

Ventsislav Krumov Velkov Ivan Georgiev Ivanov

Veselin Atanasov Dimchev Ivan Georgiev Kilitanov

Veselin Vasilev Pavlov Ivan Dimitrov Chengeliev

Violeta Andreeva Kuzmanova Ivan Dimov Zunzov

Vladimir Georgiev Zhivkov Ivan Minkov Dragnevski

Vladko Velchev Mikhalkov Ivan Minchev Ivanov

Galina Peeva Petrova Ivan Mitev Dimitrov

Georgi Andreev Kharizanov Ivan Nikolov Georgiev

Georgi Asenov Pilashev Ivan Stanev Nikolov

Georgi Borisov Grigorov Iliyan Zhivkov Iliev

Georgi Georgiev Pirinski Yordan Boychev Atanasov

Georgi Iliev Khaytov Yordan Georgiev Draganov

Georgi Stefanov Bozukov Yordan Dimitrov Radichkov

Georgi Stefanov Tambuev Yordan Zhekov Mutafchiev

Georgi Stoynov Kharizanov Katenka Petrova Aleksieva

Georgi Yankov Grigorov Katya Petrova Raykova

Gospodin Vasilev Yordanov Kiril Asparukhov Nikolov

Dimitur Yovchev Krustanov Kiril Nikolov Vasilev

Dimiutur Marinov Yordanov Kiril Stoykov Ganchev

Dimitur Trendafilov Yonchev Kolyo Georgiev Kolev

Dimitur Khristov Girginov Koprinka Georgieva Chervenkova

Krasimir Andreev Premyanov Pantaley Lazarov Pachov

Krum Georgiev Radonov Peycho Dimov Peychev

Krustyu Paraskevov Trendafilov Petko Lyubenov Milevski

Lazar Donchev Petrov Petur Vladimirov Dimitrov

Luchezar Tenev Shikov Petur Obretenov Petrov

Lyuben Georgiev Dinov Petur Toshev Mladenov

Lyuben Stoyanov Gotsev Petur-Emil Ivanov Mitev

Lyubomir Krustev Draganov Petya Stefanova Yordanova

Lyubomir Nedkov Kyuchukov Plamen Velikov Parushev

Lyudmil Ivanov Staykov Radoslav Nenkov Gaydarski

Maksim Kirilov Paskalev Rumen Mladenov Georgiev

Marin Penev Marinov Rumen Slaveykov Serbezov

Marko Yovchev Markov Rumyan Pavlov Tsonev

Marko Petrov Petrov Rumyana Ivanona Kurteva

Milcho Georgiev Milchev Rusi Ilchev Danev

Mincho Smilov Yovchev Svetlin Rusev Vulchev

Mitryu Nedev Yankov Severina Velichkova Metodieva

Mladen Iliev Kiselov Stanko Todorov Georgiev

Mladen Traykov Andonov Stefan Angelov Dimov

Nadya Mikhaylova Asparukhova Stefan Echev Staykov

Nedyalko Markov Tonev Stefan Markov Ninov

Nenko Viktorov Temelkov Stoycho Ganchev Marinov

Nenko Dobrev Goranov Stoyan Kostadinov Kutsarov

Nikola Zlatev Zhelyazkov Stoyanka Dimitrova Krustenova

Nikolay Genov Manev Todor Dimitrov Sirleshkov

Nikolay Nikolov Iribadzhakov Todor Yordanov Pandov

Nikolina Mladenova Ivanova Todor Kostadinov Karamitov

Nora Krachunova Ananieva Todor Naydenov Dimitrov

Oleg Marinov Oprev Todor Nikolov Lyutskanov

Panayot Kostov Panayotov Toncho Zhechev Tonev

Filip Georgiev Bokov Chavdar Yordanov Kyuranov

Khristo Dobrev Stoyanov Chudomir Asenov Aleksandrov

Khristo Kostadinov Ganev Yuliyan Evtimov Timov

Tsvetan Nanyov Nanyov Yuri Dimitrov Stoimenov

Tsvetan Nedkov Nedov Yavor Dimitrov Zartov

Tsvetana Georgieva Maneva Yanko Dimitrov Yankov.

Tsvyatko Stoitsev Anev

BCP Central Commission on Ethics Membership

AU0502154090 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 3 Feb 90 p 2

[List of members of the Bulgarian Communist Party (BCP) Central Commission on Party Ethics elected by the 14th BCP Extraordinary Congress in Sofia on 2 February]

[Text] Angel Ivanov Marin Vasil Donchev Kolev

Angel Stoyanov Stoychev Veselina Vasileva Baycheva

Blagoy Aleksandrov Dechev Georgi Kirev Stoyanov

Blagoy Stoilov Goshev Georgi Nikolov Mitev

Bozhana Vasileva Kasabova Dimitur Georgiev Dimitrov

Boyko Traychev Kostov Dimitur Zarev Milenkov

Boncho Draganov Rashkov Dimitur Kirilov Dimitrov

Valentin Zhivkov Chavdarov Dimo Khristov Dimov

Valentina Todorova Shalamanova Dragomir Rashkov Draganov

Evtim Stoimenov Nedyalka Markova Traykova

Ivan Kirilov Savov Neli Stoyanova Vasileva

Ivan Kolev Dochev Nikolay Stoyanov Bozhilov

Ivan Nikolov Konstantinov Nikolinka Borisova Bobcheva-

Ivan Petrov Dimitrov Georgieva

Ivan Stefanov Ivanov Penka Ivanova Trifonova

Ivo Petrov Seferov Petko Vasilev Machkovski

Yordan Vasilev Zarchev Petur Petrov Petkov

Kana Ivanona Dimitrova Rosen Khristov Benov

Kiril Velinov Kalyonski Rudenko Radev Yordanov

Krasimir Georgiev Krustev Rusi Stanchev Rusev

Kuncho Danchev Dimitrov Stefan Andonov Shukerov

Kuncho Markov Stoychev Stoyka Vuleva Zhelyazkova

Lyuben Yordanov Petrov Stoyan Dimitrov Nenchev

Mariyka Antimova Popova Tanya Konstantinova Konstantinova

Meglena Ivanona Plugchieva Todor Ivanov Todorov

Milen Ivanov Chakurov Khristofor Petkov Dochev

BCP Finance-Auditing Commission Membership

AU0502160890 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 3 Feb 90 p 2

[List of members of the Bulgarian Communist Party (BCP) Central Finance-Auditing Commission elected the 14th BCP Extraordinary Congress in Sofia on 2 February]

[Text] Angel Mikhaylov Makrev Georgi Donchev Todorov

Angel Filipov Burov Georgi Iliev Vasilev

Anyu Zapryanov Angelov Georgi Rusanov Penchev

Boris Stoyanov Anastasov Goran Ninov Marinov

Valentin Spasov Nenov Dimitur Atanasov Kolev

Vasil Vulchev Vasilev Dimitur Georgiev Nenchev

Vasil Petrov Manovski Dimitur Stoimenov Vangelov

Vasil Savov Zikulov Zdravko Petrov Georgiev

Vladimir Krustev Moskov Ivan Dimitrov Ivanov

Ivan Yosifov Ivanov Nikolay Nedev Kolev

Ivan Stoyanov Iliev Nikolina Peeva Marinova

Yordanka Paneva Todorova Pirin Asenov Nesterov

Lazar Georgiev Obetsanov Sonya Georgieva Vulcheva

Lalko Georgiev Buchkov Stefan Tsankov Bratushkov

Marin Slavov Petrov Trifon Dimitrov Mitev.

Milko Kostadinov Torbov

Further on Attempted Raids on BCP Offices

AU3001083690 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 26 Jan 90 p 2

["Announcement" issued by the Chief Prosecutor's Office of the People's Republic of Bulgaria—date and place not given]

[Text] The processes of democratization in our society following 10 November 1989 have increased the level of citizens' social and political activity. On the basis of the Constitution and the laws in force at the present, citizens are widely exercising their right to organize and hold rallies and demonstrations. These actions, however, are not always conducted in strict accordance with the existing legal system in the country.

Recently, the Chief Prosecutor's Office has been receiving reports concerning gross violations of law and order that impede the normal operation of state and public institutions and constitute breaches of the peace.

For example, at 1900 on January 24, 1990, a group of some 100 persons arrived, carrying placards and chanting, in front of the offices of the Serdika Municipal Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] in Sofia, at 102 Georgi Dimitrov Street, and called for physical violence against the Communists. Some persons among them were under the influence of alcohol.

Some of those involved tried to raid the premises of the municipal BCP committee, which required the intervention of the organs of the People's Militia.

Part of the group then headed for the building of the Directorate of the People's Militia on Lions' Bridge [Luvov most], where they chanted "Killers" and other slogans.

Similar actions have occurred in front of the headquarters of the Sofia City BCP Committee and in front of the offices of the oblast and municipal BCP committees in Plovdiv, Varna, and other towns around the country.

The Chief Prosecutor's Office of Bulgaria, as the organ that under the Constitution exercises supreme supervision over legality, finds it necessary to draw attention to the fact that some of these demonstrations constitute crimes under the Penal Code. Directions have been issued to track down the culprits and initiate criminal proceedings against them.

Radio, TV Committee Chief Bokov Resigns

AU0302202590 Sofia BTA in English 1957 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Sofia, February 3 (BTA)—Mr Filip Bokov, chairman of the Committee for Radio and Television, gave in his resignation. The reason is his having being elected member of the Presidium of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] Supreme Council.

Mr Bokov will perform his duties until a new chairman of the Committee for Radio and Television is elected.

Social Democratic Party Appeal on Emigres

AU0502112390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] A declaration of the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party was submitted to the chairman of the State Council and to the National Assembly chairman. The declaration insists on the full legal and political rehabilitation of the Bulgarian political emigres. As the declaration points out, the democratic changes under way in the country, and the nationwide dialogue connected with them, increasingly raise the question of our compatriots who were sentenced for political reasons and are living as political exiles abroad.

All people who were repressed for their political convictions are victims of the totalitarian regime, and their rehabilitation would eliminate a disgraceful mark that discredits Bulgaria in the eyes of public opinion abroad.

The declaration is signed by leaders and representatives of the unions and associations belonging to the Union of Democratic Forces.

Lukanov Attends Davos Economic Forum

AU0502111790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] An international economic forum is taking place in Davos, Switzerland, to discuss international European economic cooperation and its main problems.

Bulgaria is also participating in this important European forum. It is represented by a delegation headed by Andrey Lukanov, our country's prime minister [ministur predsedatelya].

Our Geneva reporter Dimitur (?Kunev) reports on the first interview given by our government leader in Switzerland:

[Begin Kunev recording] The Swiss Television "First Program" in its main newscast televised a five-minute interview with Andrey Lukanov. This is the first interview he has given as prime minister. In it he said that the Bulgarian Government was expected to provide conditions that will result in the prompt stabilization of the country's economy and of the sociopolitical situation. Along with this, the main task will be to transform Bulgaria into a democratic, law-governed, civic state.

Andrey Lukanov stressed that we cannot divide democracy into Western and Eastern democracy, there is only one, universal democracy, which is applicable to all countries in the world where human rights, freedom of the press, possibilities for forming various parties, and free elections are observed, where a normal parliamentary life is conducted.

Andrey Lukanov also said that the Communist Party will no longer have the monopoly of power, but hopes to continue to play an important role in the country's political life. He said that Bulgaria is part of Europe and has greatly contributed to the culture of the European countries in the past. Today we hope that our country will be able to contribute in many respects to the construction of what we call the common European home, Andrey Lukanov said in closing his statement. [end recording]

Meetings With Other Leaders

AU0502222190 Sofia BTA in English
2211 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Bulgaria, EC: Speeding Up Negotiations"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, February 5 (BTA)—At the World Economic Forum in Davos (Switzerland) Mr. Andrey Lukanov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria, held bilateral talks with Mr. Franz Vranitzky, federal chancellor of Austria; Mr. Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, head of Federal Department of Public Economy and Mr. Rene Felber, head of Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland; Ms. Carla Hills, special representative of the U.S. President for trade negotiations; Mr. Gianni de Michelis, minister of foreign affairs of Italy; Mr. Jurgen Warnke, minister for economic cooperation of the FRG; and with Mr. Hubert Curien, minister of research and technology of France.

According to information received, the leader of the Bulgarian Government had also meetings with the leaders of the EC, GATT, The World Bank, etc.

Mr. Lukanov's talks with Mr. Frans Andriessen, vice-president of the EC Commission, passed in a constructive atmosphere. An agreement was reached to speed up the negotiations on signing the agreement on trade and economic cooperation between Bulgaria and the European Communities and to specify the further steps to be taken for the promotion of the relations between Bulgaria and the EC in the field of economy.

There are good prospects for speeding up the negotiations on Bulgaria's joining the GATT.

These meetings prove that the western partners show a growing interest in the processes of democratization in Bulgaria and evaluate them positively.

[Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 2100 GMT on 5 February carries a similar report on Lukanov's meetings in Davos and adds:

"In Davos Andrey Lukanov also met Marian Calfa and Hans Modrow, leaders of the Governments of Czechoslovakia and the GDR"]

Foreign Affairs Ministry on EC Negotiations

AU2901225190 Sofia BTA in English
1945 GMT 29 Jan 90

[Text] Sofia, January 29 (BTA)—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs made the following statement:

"We learnt from a well informed diplomatic source in Sofia that the Council of the European Communities has decided to set an early date for the negotiations between the community and Bulgaria without waiting for the parliamentary elections. An opinion was expressed that the elections had better be held in the first half of this year without further delay, so that Bulgaria could have a competent government. An emphasis was furthermore laid on the need to adopt an economic stabilization program and economic backing for the transition from a centrally planned economy to a market-oriented economy, factors which were underestimated by Poland and Hungary."

'Optimistic' About Talks

AU0302204790 Sofia BTA in English
1955 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Sofia, February 3 (BTA)—Tonight an official Bulgarian representative spoke optimistically about the possible outcome of the negotiations with the European Community. Atanas Paparizov, head of department at the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, confirmed the opinion of the EC Commission that it is necessary to start working with Bulgaria without waiting for the completion of the process of restructuring.

The representative of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations pointed out that the talks with the EC will focus on the problems of the quantitative restrictions and the possibilities for granting customs preferences. There is a possibility for interaction in metallurgy, the textile industry, agriculture and infrastructure.

Mr Paparizov also said that assistance may be sought from abroad in working out a programme for overcoming the crisis in the country. This programme can be looked upon as one of the alternative variants which could be discussed at the roundtable talks with representatives of the different public forces in the country.

Negotiations To Resume Soon

AU0502200890 Sofia BTA in English
1834 GMT 5 Feb 90

["EC: Closer Relations With Eastern Europe"—BTA headline]

[Text] Brussels, February 5 (BTA correspondent)—At a session of the Council of the EC Foreign Ministers in Brussels a detailed analysis was made of the situation and the prospects for promoting the relations of the Common Market with the East European countries in the light of the reforms implemented there.

The negotiations between Bulgaria and the Common Market are to be resumed this month or early next month. The only problem is of technical nature to fix a data convenient for both sides, said to BTA correspondent a source close to the Council.

The ministers discussed the extension of the programme of the 24 Western countries for rendering assistance to Poland and Hungary which will embrace other countries in Eastern Europe, Bulgaria included.

Assembly Delegation at Council of Europe

AU0202104890 Sofia BTA in English
0842 GMT 2 Feb 90

["Parliamentary Relations With the Council of Europe"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, February 2 (BTA corr)—At the invitation of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Bulgarian delegation of the National Assembly, headed by Lyuben Kulishev, secretary of its National Commission on Foreign Policy was for the first time in Strasbourg. The delegation was received by Mr Anders Bjorck, chairman of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly .

Mr Lyuben Kulishev, confirmed the National Assembly willingness to strengthen its cooperation with such prestigious Western European organizations as the Council of Europe. Mr Anders Bjorck said that the democratic process in Bulgaria cause great interest and should be duly assessed as it is taking place without violence. He expressed his satisfaction with the recent resolution to guarantee the rights and freedoms of Muslims in Bulgaria. After assessing highly Bulgaria's desire to establish broader relations with the Western European countries and organizations, Anders Bjorck ascertained the Bulgarian delegation that the Council of Europe also wishes such kind of cooperation. He expressed a positive attitude to the interest of the Bulgarian National Assembly to receive a statute of "specially invited" at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and indicated that Bulgaria can join some of the major conventions, signed in the frameworks of this Western European organization. Anders Bjorck accepted with satisfaction the invitation to pay an official visit in Bulgaria from February 25 through 28.

The Bulgarian parliamentary delegation was also received by Catrinne Lalumierre, secretary general of the Council of Europe. She said that she is looking forward to her forthcoming visit to Bulgaria, which she will pay from March 3 to 4 together with Mr Joao de Deus Pinheiro, secretary general of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and minister of foreign affairs of Portugal. The delegation met with representatives of the Committee for Relations With the European Countries Which Are Not Members of the Council of Europe.

Visits European Parliament

AU0302153690 Sofia BTA in English
1431 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Brussels, February 3 (BTA correspondent)—A delegation of the Bulgarian National Assembly headed by Lyuben Kulishev, secretary of the National Assembly Foreign Policy Committee, paid a two-day visit to Brussels at the invitation of the leadership of the European Parliament.

The delegation was received by Mr Siegbert Alber, vice president of the European Parliament; Mr Enrico Vinci, secretary general of the European Parliament; Mr Giovanni Goria, chairman of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs; Mr Willy de Clerq, chairman of the Standing Committee on External Economic Relations; and by Mr K. Collins, chairman of the Standing Committee on Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection.

The delegation had talks with a delegation of the European Parliament for relations with Bulgaria and the leaders of the two major party groups in the European Parliament.

The representatives of the European Parliament evaluated positively the reforms implemented in Bulgaria, pointing out that the reforms will be a contribution to the process of overcoming the division of Europe, the achievement of lasting peace under the conditions of friendship and cooperation, to conducting a dialogue of a new type and making use of new forms of cooperation between the European Community and Bulgaria.

During the talks it was pointed out that an agreement on trade and economic cooperation between the Common Market and Bulgaria should be reached the soonest possible.

Mladenov Greets Polish Social Democracy

AU0102115590 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO
in Bulgarian 31 Jan 90 p 7

[Message from Petur Mladenov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, to Aleksander Kwasniewski, chairman of the Main Council of the Social Democracy of the Polish Republic (SDRP), and Leszek Miller, main secretary of the SDRP Central Executive Committee—date not given]

[Text] Esteemed comrades,

I greet you most cordially on the establishment of the Polish Republic's Social Democracy.

I am convinced that the Polish Republic's Social Democracy will rapidly assert itself as a basic force in the process of profoundly renewing the Polish society in accordance with the principles of democracy, freedom, and social justice.

I sincerely wish you good health and successes in your highly responsible activity.

Al-Qadhdhafi Special Envoy Visits Sofia

Meets With Mladenov

AU1501140290 Sofia BTA in English 1313 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Sofia, January 15 (BTA)—Mr Petur Mladenov, secretary general of the State Council received today Dr Fathi Shatun, special envoy of Mr Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the first of September Revolution of the Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Mr Boyko Dimitrov, Bulgaria's foreign affairs minister participated in the meeting.

Discusses Economic Issues

AU1601113990 Sofia BTA in English 1032 GMT 16 Jan 90

["Bulgaria-Libya: Discussion of Trade and Economic Issues"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, January 16 (BTA)—Mr Khristo Khristov, minister of foreign economic relations, president of the Bulgarian section of the Bulgaro-Libyan Committee on Economic and Techno-Scientifical Cooperation met with Dr Fathi Shatu'an, special envoy of the leader of the First of September Revolution of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, secretary of the General People's Committee for the Strategic Industry, who is a president of the Libyan part of the bilateral committee.

After a discussion of the state of bilateral economic relations a survey was made of the former fulfillment of agreements. Opinions were exchanged about the future development of mutual economic and trade relations. Problems were discussed, related with the open financial issues. It was agreed that in the near future, not later than March this year, a meeting will be held between the two ministers, at which the open issues will be finally agreed upon.

It was agreed that in the middle of February the Bulgarian side will send its representatives in Libya for setting up of joint companies for metal constructions and collection of metal scrap which will be built on this country's territory.

Baker's Visit Termed 'Significant and Historic'

LD0502212590 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] [Announcer] U.S. Secretary of State James Baker arrives in Czechoslovakia tomorrow for an official visit. David Stahlavsky will be following the visit for two days and I asked him for some details:

[Stahlavsky] Adjectives such as significant and historic apply because this is the first visit by such a high-level U.S. politician in our country for a long time and also because Secretary of State James Baker will stop in Czechoslovakia prior to his visit to Moscow, where he is expected Wednesday afternoon [7 February].

This was the information given to journalists accredited for the Baker visit in the Hotel Intercontinental this afternoon by representatives of the U.S. Embassy in Prague and by representatives of our Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

James Baker arrives tomorrow morning and he will first go to Prague Castle for talks with President Vaclav Havel. In the afternoon he will also meet with Frantisek Cardinal Tomasek. On his home soil—that is, in the U.S. Embassy in Prague—James Baker will meet with representatives of Civic Forum and Public Against Violence. President Havel will attend the reception which follows. Our public will no doubt be interested in the laying of wreaths Wednesday morning at the St. Wenceslas statue and in James Baker's speech in the historic Carolinum.

I would like to point out that the U.S. secretary of state will be the first U.S. politician to visit Central and East Europe only a few days after President Bush proposed a fundamental reduction in the Armed Forces of the United States and the Soviet Union in this area and only a few hours before talks in Moscow.

Baker Welcomed in Prague

LD0602102590 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1000 gmt 6 Feb 90

[Excerpt] U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, accompanied by his wife, arrived today shortly after 1000 on an official visit to Czechoslovakia at the invitation of Jiri Dienstbier, Czechoslovak minister of foreign affairs.

The guest was welcomed at Ruzyne Airport in Prague by Robert Harencar, the first deputy Czechoslovak minister of foreign affairs.

The U.S. secretary of state last visited our country in 1973. James Baker will spend 27 hours in Czechoslovakia. [passage omitted]

Aircraft Industry Signs Contract in U.S.

AU3001085090 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Jan 90 p 13

[CTK report: "American Engines for Czechoslovak Aircraft"]

[Text] Boston (CTK)— An important contract has been signed in Boston by the Czechoslovak aircraft industry firms Aero Prague and Let Kunovice with General Electric, the world's biggest manufacturer of aircraft engines. The contract was concluded through the mediation of the Omnipol foreign trade corporation.

Under the contract, the American firm will supply to Czechoslovakia approximately $300 million worth of prop-jet engines of the CT 7-9B type. The engines will be used for the assembly of the Czechoslovak L 610 aircraft.

The contract establishes prerequisites for the export of these aircraft to the United States and other Western countries. By the year 1999, these exports should reach a total volume of $1.4 billion.

Dalai Lama Begins Private Visit; PRC Objects

PRC Protests to Beijing Envoy

AU3001083890 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Jan 90 p 13

[Vladimir Divis Beijing dispatch: "A Sharp Reaction From Beijing"]

[Text] Beijing (from our correspondent)— Czechoslovak Ambassador in Beijing Eduard Saul was summoned to the PRC Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Thursday [25 January]. He was asked to communicate to Prague the sharply negative stand of Chinese official quarters on the Dalai Lama's upcoming visit [to Czechoslovakia].

A representative of the Chinese side asked the Czechoslovak authorities to reconsider the whole affair and to cancel the invitation for the Dalai Lama. Otherwise the Chinese side reserves the right to take additional steps.

At a news conference held the same day, replying to the RUDE PRAVO correspondent's question about what specific measures the Chinese side can be expected to take if the invitation is not withdrawn, the ministry's spokesman Jin Guihua merely expressed the hope that the Czechoslovak president would reconsider his stand. He said, furthermore, that the claim about the private nature of the Dalai Lama's trip to the CSSR is unacceptable to China because a head of state always represents the interests of the whole country. He added that a gross interference in the internal affairs of the PRC is involved.

In the event of the Dalai Lama's arrival in Prague, it is realistic to expect that the Chinese ambassador will be recalled. A palpable unilateral limitation of contacts in all spheres, including economic cooperation and trade, is not being ruled out.

Dalai Lama Arrives

LD0202174190 Prague CTK in English 1201 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] Prague Feb 2 (CTK)—The Dalai Lama of Tibet arrived here today on a five-day private visit at the invitation of President Vaclav Havel.

The announcement of the intention to invite Tibet's spiritual leader to Czechoslovakia was made for the first time in President Havel's New Year's address and drew a great response from the Czechoslovak and foreign public. Although it was stressed several times that the Dalai Lama is a private guest of the Czechoslovak president, China strongly protested against it and described the visit as gross violation in its internal affairs.

Both the Dalai Lama and the Czechoslovak president are advocates of the policy of non-violence and peaceful co-existence. Appreciation of their activities in this sphere can be seen from the fact that the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the Dalai Lama for his activities in favour of Tibet's independence, and that one of the candidates for the prize last year was also Vaclav Havel, who was again proposed for the prize this year by the U.S. Committee for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The Dalai Lama will spend one day in consultations and meditations with President Havel. The program of the visit includes a meeting with Frantisek Cardinal Tomasek, the primate of Bohemia, with representatives of the Civic Forum and its Slovak sister initiative the Public Against Violence, as well as with persons interested in Buddhism and yoga, members of the recently set up Czechoslovak Buddhist Society, students, scientists, artists, and journalists.

PRC Postpones Minister's Visit

LD0302101290 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0900 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] China protested yet again today against the visit of the Tibetan Dalai Lama to Czechoslovakia. The fact that President Vaclav Havel insisted on inviting him, despite the clear-cut attitude which was communicated to him by the Chinese means, according to the statement of a representative of the Chinese foreign minister, gross interference in the affairs of China. The Chinese Government must, according to his words, put off in the current situation the visit of the minister of metallurgy, engineering, and electrical engineering, Ladislav Vodrazka, to China, which was to begin on 17 February.

Dalai Lama Gives News Conference

LD0302175690 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1500 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Excerpts] The Tibetan Dalai Lama today answered questions by journalists in the Esplanade Hotel in Prague.

He pointed out, above all, the idea of nonviolence, which in his view does not mean obeying others' orders and giving up one's own hopes and rights. If we use violence we may achieve a temporary success, but from a long-term viewpoint, violence always brings destruction.

Regarding talks with the Chinese Government on the status of Tibet, the Dalai Lama said that in 1987 he submitted a five-point plan, which he worked out in more detail a year later. The Chinese Government, on the one hand, rejects the proposals, but on the other hand shows a willingness to hold discussions. The last official contact took place in April last year. The Dalai Lama in this context stressed his ever-present willingness to hold talks.

He went on to speak about the Lamaist Buddhism and other religions. In his view, one religion cannot satisfy the religious needs of all people. What is unfortunate is that because of various religions people become involved in disputes, hostilities, and conflicts. What matters is not to promote one's own religion, but to contribute to enriching others.

Regarding the candidacy of Vaclav Havel for this year's Nobel Peace Prize, the Tibetan Dalai Lama said that the Czechoslovak fully deserved it.

His Holiness, the Tibetan Dalai Lama, this morning toured an exhibition of photographs from Tibet in the small Melantrich Gallery in Prague. [passage omitted] The Dalai Lama then left for lunch at the Indian ambassador's residence.

Dalai Lama, Havel Issue Joint Appeal

LD0402165790 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1600 GMT 4 Feb 90

[Text] Today's joint appeal by his holiness [the Dalai Lama] and President Vaclav Havel, states:

As two human beings who think about the present state and future of this human world, we turn to all politicians and ask them to free themselves from the shackles of their personal and group interests and allow themselves to act according to their conscience and the feeling of responsibility toward truth and justice. The human world stands face to face with serious crises and, in our joint view, its only hope lies in the sphere of consciousness and awakening all that is good in each one of us, and in our respect for that which is greater than us as an individual, whether we call it God, the order of space, inevitability of consequences of our own acts, or anything else.

This generally applies, not only for each one of us, but even more for people who have taken on political responsibility. If human beings will know how to live in peace, with love in their hearts, if they can feel justice and decency with a sense for the all-human responsibility, then there is hope that they will be able to live in peace, mutual love, and justice. That is how they will free themselves from repression, and spiritual and material poverty.

It is our joint and sincere wish that this should take place, states today's appeal by the Tibetan Dalai Lama and President Vaclav Havel.

Spokesman Responds to PRC Protest

LD0502211690 Prague CTK in English 1925 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Prague, Feb 5 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak President's Office has taken a stand on the Chinese Government's new protest against the Dalai Lama's visit to Czechoslovakia and the subsequent cancellation of a visit by the Czechoslovak minister of metallurgy, engineering and electrical engineering to China.

At a briefing today, the Czechoslovak president's press secretary Michael Zantovsky said that during his meeting with the Chinese ambassador and on other occasions President Vaclav Havel had stressed the Dalai Lama's visit was a private visit of a spiritual and not political character and pointed out that the freedom of contacts between people is a human right which should be acknowledged to all citizens, and thus also to the president. Havel also always pointed out Czechoslovakia's sincere interest in friendly and equal relations with China, as well as with other countries. During his discussion with the Czechoslovak president the Chinese ambassador had not mentioned any economic impact on China's part of the Dalai Lama's visit to Czechoslovakia, Michael Zantovsky said.

He also told journalists that Dr Pavol Sitar asked to be relieved of his post of Czechoslovak prosecutor-general on personal grounds. President Havel accepted his resignation and appointed Dr Tibor Bohm, the Slovak prosecutor-general, to the post. He also appointed Dr Rudolf Tomasovic chief military prosecutor.

Zantovsky said Vaclav Havel's visit to the USSR, scheduled for the end of this month, will last one or two days. President Havel also accepted an invitation to visit Finland, conveyed to him by the Finnish ambassador on January 16.

Walesa Spokesman's Denial of Criticism Reported

LD0502144390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1130 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Lech Walesa's spokesman described as unsubstantiated the speculations in the Western media concerning the fact that no meeting took place between the Czechoslovak president and the Solidarity chairman during a recent visit by Vaclav Havel to Warsaw.

In a statement published today in GAZETA WYBORCZA the spokesman refuted Walesa's alleged critical remarks about Vaclav Havel and the state of reforms in Czechoslovakia, stressing that various rumors have only created an unpleasant atmosphere.

Dienstbier Receives Soviet, Hungarian Diplomats

LD0502174290 Prague CTK in English 1500 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Prague Feb 5 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier received here today Soviet Charge d'Affaires in Czechoslovakia Marat Kuznetsov at his own request.

They discussed topical questions of bilateral relations and some international issues.

Later today, Jiri Dienstbier received Hungarian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Ferenc Somogyi.

The two representatives discussed questions of bilateral relations and cooperation, and the circumstances of negotiations on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia and Hungary. They agreed to inform each other of these questions and stressed that the two countries consider these negotiations with the Soviet Union a bilateral affair.

Dienstbier, Papal Nuncio Discuss Diplomatic Ties

LD3101142890 Prague CTK in English 1320 GMT 31 Jan 90

[Text] Prague Jan 31 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier had talks today with special Papal Nuncio Archbishop Francesco Colasuonno, concerning the early resumption of diplomatic relations with the Vatican and the pontiff's visit to Czechoslovakia, due to take place in April.

Diplomatic relations between Czechoslovakia and the Vatican were suspended in the 1950's.

Havel Invites FRG's Brandt To Visit

LD0202215590 Prague CTK in English 1720 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] Bonn Feb 2 (CTK)—A personal letter of Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel to former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt, president of the Socialist International, with an invitation for a visit to Czechoslovakia was handed over to the West German politician by Tomas Kosta, West German publisher of Czech origin, here today.

It has been announced to CTK by the Czechoslovakia's representative body in Bonn.

Nations Urged To Heed Example, End Arms Exports

LD2601212890 Prague International Service in English 1900 GMT 26 Jan 90

[Commentary by Radio Prague's Milan Suchanek]

[Text] The quality of Czechoslovak arms is highly respected in the world, yet the Czechoslovak Government decided to stop its arms exports. This will certainly bring about losses in hard-currency income for our country, but on the other hand will raise our moral credit, which the new Czechoslovak Government sees as its top priority.

Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier told THE NEW YORK TIMES in this connection that Czechoslovakia rejects the views of some pragmatists who claim that other nations would deliver arms to our clients if we halt shipments. According to Western sources, in the years 1983-1988 Czechoslovakia was the seventh-largest arms exporter in the world.

The fact that Czechoslovakia stops its exports guarantees the speedy conversion of the Czechoslovak military industry to civilian purposes. By this decision, Czechoslovakia gives an example for the solution of the issue of international arms trading. The arms trade is in contradiction with the climate of easening [as heard] world tensions, and also promotes the creation of hotbeds of tension and local conflicts. This is why the Czechoslovak decision to halt arms exports should be interpreted as a moral move which proposes [as heard] other states to follow suit.

Calfa Sees 'New Stage' in Austrian Relations

LD3101214390 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 2030 GMT 31 Jan 90

[Interview with Premier Marian Calfa by editor Rudolf Erhart—recorded, Erhart speaks in Czech, Calfa speaks in Slovak]

[Text] [Erhart] Mr Federal Premier, what are your feelings on your return from Austria?

[Calfa] I can say I have very good feelings. We were received in a very kind and friendly way. The course of the talks shows the Austrian side has a lot of goodwill and understanding for Czechoslovakia's problems and is truly interested in helping us. We explained to one another the different possibilities, we explained our situation, our intentions in the economic sphere. We found very receptive listeners. To summarize, I think the visit represented a totally new stage in our mutual relations, a stage in which Austrian businessmen can find in Czechoslovakia opportunities which they have not had hitherto.

[Erhart] We journalists got the impression that you get on very well with Chancellor Vranitzky, and that you found a truly common language?

[Calfa] Yes, I have the same impression. Mr Vranitzky is a real expert, but not only that, he is an outstanding person. We are also more or less the same age. He understood our problems, he was well prepared for the talks, so we did not have to spend a lot of time tuning in to one another's wavelength, and when you are both on the same wavelength, then you can really talk, and that is what we found.

[Erhart] In your meeting with Federal President Kurt Waldheim, you also spoke about a visit by Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel to Austria, did you not? What can you say about this, briefly?

[Calfa] We both noted the Austrian president has invited our president for a visit. Our president has accepted the invitation and thanked him for it, so now it is merely a question of setting the date, but this is not all that simple, due to the excessive workload of our president, Mr Havel.

Premier Calfa Attends Davos Economic Forum

Discusses Foreign Investment Terms

LD0302213890 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Interview with Federal Government Premier Marian Calfa by Station Correspondent Jan Filava on 3 February at World Economic Forum in Davos; introductoy graf read by announcer, and interview in Slovak—recorded; no video available]

[Text] A symposium is under way at which problems of the world economy, questions of investments, and the narcotics' market are being discussed. Among the participants are not only important political representatives from a number of countries, but also representatives of such companies as Siemens, Phillips, and others. A Czechoslovak delegation is also taking part in these deliberations again after a period of 20 years. Our correspondent Jan Filava prepared an interview with the delegation's head, Marian Calfa, premier of the federal government.

[Begin recording] [Calfa] For me, yesterday afternoon was very important as I had an opportunity to meet about 50 important representatives of world trade, world economic organizations, and world banks.

[Filava] Was it during roundtable talks?

[Calfa] Yes, during the roundtable talks we discussed opportunities open to Czechoslovkia. I have to say that all participants were very curious about Czechoslovakia, its political situation, above all its economic situation, and Czechoslovakia's future plans in the economic sphere.

[Filava] What are they most interested in?

[Calfa] Understandably they are most interested in the opportunities for investments abroad. After all, this is also what we are interested in. They are interested in investments in Czechoslovakia and they are therefore interested in the conditions, especially legal ones.

[Filava] And in this sphere you were in fact able to provide them on the spot with rather specific information, because the laws are prepared and some already passed.

[Calfa] We at home believe that during the first 6 months of 1990 we should form a comprehensive legal system regarding the possibilities for foreign investment in Czechoslovkia, and thus create similar conditions to those which are usual in the world economy. [end recording]

Stresses Solvency in Address

LD0402225290 Prague CTK in English 1942 GMT 4 Feb 90

[Text] Davos Feb 4 (CTK correspondent)—"We are quite solvent and we think that it is not a problem for us to gain considerable bank or commercial credits", Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa stressed here today.

Addresssing participants in the World Economic Forum, he stressed the share of foreign capital in Czechoslovakia's national economy as a significant possibility for making the country's economy more effective. One of the suitable forms of cooperation are joint ventures, Marian Calfa said but added that according to his opinion capital participation of foreign banks and businessmen in existing enterprises is a more effective form. Such a partner should be able to ensure advanced technology and access to Western markets, he stressed.

Comments on Forum Results

LD0502143490 Prague CTK in English 1340 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Davos Feb 5 (CTK Correspondent)—"Our main aim was to show Czechoslovakia in the new light, to present the way of thinking of its representatives. I think that we have succeeded," Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa told CTK here today referring to last weekend's world economic forum held in Davos.

"We wanted to differentiate our economic situation, our reform strategy from that of some of our neighbours, which met with a very favourable response. We invited foreign firms to set up competition in our country, to present themselves on the top level. I am convinced that the auditors understood what we wanted to say, what we want to present, and what fills us with optimism and hope," the premier said.

Asked about his numerous meetings with his partners during the event, e.g. with FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl, GDR Premier Hans Modrow, Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski, Marian Calfa said that all these people showed great interest in Czechoslovakia's development which they welcome and support. They understood it as a qualitative change both in Czechoslovakia and in Central Europe, he said.

"The situation is developing very quickly. Czechoslovak Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus, e.g., has been offered by his partners from West Germany, Switzerland and Austria to participate in their regular session on serious economic issues. The same approach to us has been shown by almost all participants in the Davos forum," Marian Calfa said.

Returns With Delegation

LD0502224790 Prague CTK in English 2008 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Prague Fed 5 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa and his entourage, First Deputy Premier Valtr Komarek, Deputy Premier Vladimir Dlouhy and Minister of Finance Vaclav Klaus, returned here today from Davos, Switzerland, where they attended the World Economic forum 1990.

The Czechoslovak representatives discussed with their partners the present political system in Czechoslovakia and the situation in the country's economy, mainly the tasks on the new road towards market economy.

Interviewed on Return

LD0502203790 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Interview with Premier Calfa by unidentified correspondent on 5 February at Ruzyne Airport—live]

[Text] [Correspondent] A special aircraft from Davos landed at 1842 at Prague airport, and therefore we have an opportunity to ask the following:

Mr. Premier, allow me to ask on behalf of Czechoslovak television. You had a series of meetings in Davos. Which one of them do you consider to be the most important?

[Calfa] Well, I did indeed have a great number of meetings, but I must say that the most important meetings we had were the large-scale meetings with the group of businessmen and politicians at the briefings and at roundtables, where we exchanged a great many views indeed.

[Correspondent] The purpose of your speech in Davos was to present Czechoslovakia and its concept of economic development. How did you present it?

[Calfa] We presented it in the way in which we intend to carry it out. This means that we discussed our development, with respect to the political system; we discussed our development and our ways with respect to our economic system, and we discussed our market economy. I must say that during the roundtable and other talks we found our partners to be very attentive listeners. I therefore think that we presented the Czechoslovakia of 1990.

Havel Advises 'Synchronized' Return to Europe

LD2701205590 Prague CTK in English 1546 GMT 27 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Prague Jan 27 (CTK)—Return of Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary to Europe must be synchronized, Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel said today in reply to a question whether Czechoslovakia's integration in a broader community is possible.

The president today met at Hradec Kralove, East Bohemia, with students, actors and Civic Forum spokesmen. [passage omitted]

Havel Cited on Ideological Views, Country's Path

LD0402231990 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 2030 GMT 4 Feb 90

[Text] Spain—The EL PAIS daily has carried an interview with Vaclav Havel, Czechoslovak president who said, among other things, that he does not hold any specific ideological views, that he does not consider himself a Marxist or a Marxist supporter. He expressed a hope however, that Czechoslovakia would be able to find its own way toward a further development. Vaclav Havel said, in this context, that this should be a path which would turn Czechoslovakia toward a prosperous economy, socially just and on the whole humane.

Concerning the events in the Soviet Union, Vaclav Havel expressed a wish for the important changes in that important world power to take place in a peaceful and nonviolent way.

Havel, Labor Minister Receive ILO Official

LD0502225190 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Excerpts] President Vaclav Havel and Petr Miller, federal minister of labor and social affairs, today received Herbert Meier, deputy director general of the ILO [Independent Labor Organization] Office. [passage omitted]

During the meeting the two sides discussed the need to harmonize Czechoslovak legislation and its practice with the ILO agreements, in particular in the association of trade unions and in work discrimination. These agreements and recommendations were violated in the past. The point in the future will be to harmonize interests in the spheres of labor and legal relations, in the concept of employment, management, and counseling, and in social and pension provisions.

Peace Council Holds First Constituent Meeting

LD2701172290 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0900 GMT 27 Jan 90

[Text] Another new organization was formed today in Prague: The Czechoslovak Peace Council [ceskoslovenska mirova rada]. Our editor Barbora Doleckova reports from the Dum Kultury Kovoprumyslu building in Prague:

About 150 delegates met at a constituent session of the council and agreed on characterizing this new organisation as an open and independent democratic platform of informal dialogue, cooperation, and mutual solidarity of social forces and citizens.

The Czechoslovak Peace Council will, through its initiatives and control of the state's policy, strive for disarmament, with the aim of a total elimination and banning of weapons of mass destruction, and for a substantial reduction of armed forces in Czechoslovakia. It wishes to contribute, among other things, to the speeding of the withdrawal of all Soviet troops, and to the withdrawal of weapons of mass destruction from Czechoslovak territory, as well as toward a dissolution of the military blocs, especially the Warsaw Pact and NATO. The council will also attempt a legalization of an alternative civil service for conscientious objectors to military service, as well as further shortening the length of national military service.

Later today [27 January] the delegates will elect a coordination committee and a chairman of the Czechoslovak Peace Council.

Pithart Discusses Civic Forum's Present, Future

LD2901130990 Prague CTK in English 1120 GMT 29 Jan 90

[Text] Prague Jan 29 (CTK)— The Civic Forum (CF) in Czechoslovakia is in a paradoxical situation—it must behave as a political party but at the same time it should not become a political party, a member of the CF Coordinating Centre Petr Pithart said in an interview for CTK.

He said the Civic Forum associates people who do not want to be members of any party. "If we declared ourselves a political party many people would most probably leave," he admitted, adding that the Forum is a bloc of unaffiliated persons.

Asked about the Forum's main tasks at present, Petr Pithart said that tomorrow the Czechoslovak parliament will be complemented by 55 deputies who enjoy the support of the Forum. The Forum also came up with a concept of the electoral system in the free elections due on June 8. The law on elections, to be adopted by the parliament in the coming weeks, is unlikely to be identical with the Civic Forum's original proposal. "It must be acceptable by all decisive political forces. Although we feel to be somewhat stronger than others, we do not intend to push it through at squares in in the streets. We have promised scope for political pluralism and our original draft preferred a majority system of one-mandate districts, which would mean a 'stop' particularly to the small political parties. Moreover, we do not want the elections to become a sort of anti- Communist plebiscite. We are not interested in plunging our country into chaos," he said. Pithart believed that a maximum of six or seven political parties would get into the new Czechoslovak parliament after democratic elections.

The Civic Forum official said his recent television speech was meant to address those who under Civic Forum "colours" assume far greater rights than are due to them, behave undemocratically and settle their personal accounts "through the Civic Forum".

While defining preparations of the election program and the start of the election campaign as the main tasks for the nearest future, Petr Pithart said all political forces striving to change society will have problems in the countryside which "for several reasons lived at the cost of other social strata of the population." Behind the relatively good living standard in villages are high state subsidies to agriculture and food production and the considerable devastation of the environment.

Petr Pithart said the question of the Forum's dissolution after the elections or its establishment as a political party is being discussed at every meeting. He did not rule out the possibility that after the elections the Civic Forum will resemble a large political party which will be active only in the election campaign but will have no statutory membership.

Human Rights Committee Leadership Resigns

AU3001084890 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Jan 90 p 2

[Unattributed report from the "By Teletype, Mail, Telephone..." column]

[Text] At a session of its Presidium in Prague on Thursday [25 January], the Committee of the Czechoslovak Public for Human Rights and Humanitarian Cooperation noted that between 2 November 1989 and 24 January, it received 1,352 written requests and 283 personal visits from citizens. [Committee Chairman] Zdenek Dienstbier, Vladimir Flegl, Lubomir Ledl, and Pavla Kolarova resigned from their posts in the Presidium. The Presidium entrusted Zbynek Vokrouhlicky with the chairmanship of the committee.

CPCZ Official Describes Roundtable Talks

AU0202122290 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 1 Feb 90 pp 1,3

[Interview with Jan Bouchal, head of a CPCZ Central Committee department, by Iveta Fryvaldska and Jan Lipavsky, in Prague on 31 January: "What Was Discussed at the Roundtable"]

[Text] On Wednesday [31 January], discussions took place at the roundtable among representatives of the most important political parties. When they were over, we asked Jan Bouchal, head of a Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Central Committee department, to give us some details.

[Question] What was the subject of the talks?

[Bouchal] We listened to a report prepared by experts on the law on election to legislative bodies.

[Question] What was the outcome of this discussion?

[Bouchal] We concurred in the view that it would be useful to reduce the number of deputies in the highest legislative organs. In this regard, the roundtable participants recommended preparing an appropriate constitutional law to alter the number and status of deputies.

[Question] By how many will the number be reduced and what does an alteration to the deputies' status mean?

[Bouchal] In all three legislative bodies, the number of deputies should be reduced by 150. We all agreed that we will recommend, through the medium of our deputies, that the number be amended by a Federal Assembly decision to 150 in the Chamber of People and to 150 in the Chamber of Nations. The Czech National Council should have 150 deputies and the Slovak National Council should have 100 deputies. As far as an alteration to the deputies' status is concerned, it is envisaged that after the elections deputies will work in this position full time. But the newly elected legislative organs should make a decision on this aspect of the conduct of a deputy's duty.

[Question] What is the opinion of the roundtable participants on the reconstruction carried out in our parliament?

[Bouchal] We evaluated the course of the reconstruction and we consider it to have been completed. This should create conditions for the Federal Assembly to work in peace and should provide security for the deputies to carry out their duties.

[Question] What else was discussed at the roundtable on Wednesday?

[Bouchal] First on the agenda was a discussion about the elections to national committees and their future structure and status.

[Question] What will change in their status?

[Bouchal] The vital thing about the national committees' status is their primary element—that is, national committees in towns and villages. They should be absolutely autonomous and equipped with authority to deal with the population's everyday needs. The majority of participants at the roundtable, including our representatives, were also in favor of there being only two National Committee levels in the future. And something else: I consider it important that yesterday we adopted a joint statement on how to proceed in reconstructing the national committees. We expect that our party's members and representatives will take an active part in these discussions.

[Interviewers] Thank you for the interview.

Demands of Peace Organizations Outlined

LD3001141690 Prague CTK in English 1155 GMT 30 Jan 90

[Text] Prague Jan 30 (CTK)—Shortening compulsory military service to 12 months and for university graduates to six months, the possibility of substitute civilian service, withdrawal of Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia, and education to peace are at present the chief demands of all Czechoslovak peace organizations.

The most radical of them, the "Independent Peace Association", set up in April 1988, is engaged also in the defence of human rights and demands the abolition of capital punishment in this country, and the establishment of a semi-professional army. Its view is that military issues should be a subject of public discussions.

Another grouping trying to be active is the "Czechoslovak peace union", established on January 27, 1990. Its foundation was prepared by the apparatus of the Czechoslovak Peace Committee dissolved in November last year, which, under the name of "Czechoslovak Peace Fighters Committee," was in 1968-89 and before that in 1949-1968 the only permitted peace organization. Its activities were then directed by the then ruling Communist Party in line with its needs. Today the union acts as an open, independent and democratic platform for various peace groupings in civic initiatives, political parties, churches, scientific and art circles, public and interest organizations and individuals.

The "Czechoslovak Pacifist League", established on January 18, 1990 among university students, so far failed to present a program that would be distinctly different from programs of other organizations apart from its negative attitude to the existence of military departments at universities.

The "John Lennon Peace Club" differs from the peace movement through its emphasis on culture as a means for achieving peace, love and understanding between people and nations. The club was set up in December 1988 at a commemorative rally of Prague youth on the day of the anniversary of John Lennon's assassination. The ex-Beatle's peace activity set an example for members of the club which was banned from the public by authorities until November 1989.

Since November 1989 all peace organizations have held together several demonstrations for shortening military service and introducing substitute civilian service, and several times discussed their demands with Czechoslovak Army representatives but so far without any concrete results.

PAV Presents Program on Talks With CPSL

LD0502190390 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1605 GMT 5 Feb 90

["Public platform" program, presented by (Marta Vancova)]

[Text] [(Vancova)] Good evening, esteemed listeners. Here is another Public Against Violence [PAV] broadcast. This is (Marta Vancova) welcoming you from the studio. Today we will be going over, first of all, to our studio in Mozart House at Jiraskova ulice and to my colleague, (Maria Hluchanova).

[(Hluchanova)] With me in the Mozart House studio is (Juraj Klanyk), member of the PAV Coordination Committee, who will acquaint us with the content of the Coordination Committee's communique on yesterday's meeting with the representatives of the Slovak Communist Party [CPSL] Central Committee Executive Committee. I hand the floor to you (Juraj).

[(Klanyk)] Thank you. The representatives of the CPSL Central Committee Executive Committee and the PAV Coordination Committee met on the premises of the CPSU Central Committee on 4 February 1990. The topics of their three-and-one-half-hour talks were questions concerning the present situation in the work places and the abolition of the CPSL's hegemony in the sphere of periodicals. The representatives of the CPSL Central Committee Executive Committee proposed cooperation between the CPSL and the PAV in the enterprises and work places, even when free trade unions, which the PAV considers to be its successors in the work places, have not yet been set up.

The goal of this cooperation should be political agreements, and with their help, the calming of the situation in work places. Representatives of the Coordination Committee expressed the view that the tension surrounding cadre changes lies primarily in the fact that the Slovak Socialist Republic government is tardy with precise instructions for the management of enterprises. They expressed regret over the fact that the CPSL Central Committee Executive Committee did not insure the clarification of the rules of the game, despite the fact that cadre changes often concern CPSL members. The PAV Coordination Committee considers the decisive source of tension to be the waiting policy of the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] and the CPSL at the present time which does not provide an honorable chance for their members to leave the party, for example, by changing the name of the party and reregistering the membership. The CPSL thus prolongs the tension in society.

Representatives of the CPSL Central Committee Executive Committee expressed the view that this step would be the political self- liquidation of the party, which would create a political vacuum.

PAV representatives expressed the view that the Communist Party in the past often reacted tardily to social changes and that this behavior is continuing. If Slovakia is not ready for the changed economic situation, it will become an economic wreck and will remain on the periphery of civilization.

Representatives of the CPSL Central Committee Executive Committee stated that the change in the CPSL will take about six months. The party no longer has the nomenclature in its hands and its management is no longer administrative. It makes possible the action of lower echelons according to their own platforms.

As a result of differing standpoints, an agreement on cooperation was not reached. Executive Committee representatives see the solution of questions regarding the CPSL's majority in the press as being sought at the roundtable talks, where the question of the Communist Party's access to television and radio broadcasts should be solved as well. HLAS LUDU has been handed over to the West Slovak Regional National Committee, but the CPSL continues to be the publisher for the other regional dailies: VECERNIK, SMER, and VYCHODOSLOVENSKE NOVINY. PRAVDA wil be printed in the large format until March 1990. By June 1990, the number of PRAVDA's editorial staff should be reduced from 106 editors to 80. Concerning NOVE SLOVO, they stated that they are not in favor of a broad-spectrum weekly, but in a weekly with a center-left spectrum. They would like to keep NEDELNA PRAVDA as their theoretical weekly. The future of the dailies will be decided at the session of the government on 5 February 1990. They ask for more air time and greater balance, and for greater focus on the left wing.

PAV representatives delivered the view that the CPSL's hegemony in the press came into existance in the period of totalitarian power, similar to the property situation of the CPSL and the CPCZ, and therefore the speedy resolution of these monopolies cannot be tied to any other conditions and must be done urgently and in a more broad-minded way. As it is, it is two months late already. The Executive Committee has not concerned itself so far with the reallocation of paper. They also passed on the requirement to publish the necessary property situation of the party.

Representatives of the Executive Committee of the party's Central Committee stated that all the property of the party will be published and thus will be under public control.

Communist Democratic Forum Needed Say Officials

LD0502231990 Prague CTK in English 2005 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Prague Feb 5 (CTK)—Representatives of the Democratic Forums (Communist) from Bohemia and Moravia met with journalists here today.

They stressed that even at the time of formation of a new political party—the Czechoslovak Democratic Forum—the functioning of the Democratic Forum (Communist) is still needed in the structure of political parties and civic initiatives. Moreover, cooperation between them would be only beneficial for the sake of unification of the left wing stream in the pre-election period.

Asked about cooperation between the Democratic Forum (Communist) and the Czechoslovak Communist Party in various spheres, the representatives said that mostly it is successful.

They pointed out that the Democratic Forum (Communist) will also in the future function as an independent stream within the Czechoslovak Communist Party irrespective of the creation of a new political party—the Czechoslovak Democratic Forum. They do not consider its creation a disruption or abolition but natural democratic development of pluralism in ideas in the left wing movement.

Paper Says Coup Against Government 'Unrealistic'

LD0102105990 Prague CTK in English 0850 GMT 1 Feb 90

[Text] Prague Feb 1 (CTK)—Referring to reliable sources close to the Czechoslovak State Security and Counter-Intelligence Service, the Czech farmers' daily ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY said today that a secret armed action against the present Government of Czechoslovakia is unrealistic.

Referring to a recent official response by President Vaclav Havel and Interior Minister Richard Sacher to rumours of an imminent coup, the daily said that "a grave danger of a violent police and possibly military coup really threatened only in the first December days of last year. At present, however, such an operation is virtually impracticable from the technical and organizational points of view".

The paper quoted the sources as having said that rank and file members of the state security corps and other armed units of the Interior Ministry lost confidence in the former supreme command and mainly in the main political representatives of the past regime.

The overwhelming majority of state security members do evidently not intend to engage in any adventurous action that can be moreover seen as suicidal beforehand, the paper said and added that in connection with the latest alarming reports intelligence experts are inclined to believe the version of a disinformation operation. The repetition of similar rumours is not ruled out, the paper said.

Human Chain Protest Held Against Dam Project

LD0302191390 Prague CTK in English 1553 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Bratislava Feb 3 (CTK)—More than 100,000 people from Austria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia created today a 150-kilometre human chain along the Danube from Hainburg (Austria), across Bratislava (Czechoslovakia) to Komarom (Hungary).

Participants in the event called for immediate suspension of works on the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros water dams system on the Danube and for the investigation of and compensation for the damage caused to private property during the construction. They also demanded immediate elaboration of studies and projects for the inclusion of the affected territory into the suggested Danubian National Park from Vienna to Budpest.

The event 'Europe for Europe' was attended by representatives of Greens parties and nature protectors from Austria, Hungary, France and Czechoslovakia.

Border Guards' Administration Chiefs Inaugurated

LD0202162490 Prague CTK in English 1456 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] Prague Feb 2 (CTK)—New chief of the border guards' main administration Colonel Stanislav Pokorny was inagurated today, under a decree issued by Interior Minister Richard Sacher.

Colonel Stanislav Pokorny, 66, who replaced Anton Nemec, was dismissed from the post of commander of a border guard brigade 21 years ago and worked as a mechanic.

Colonel Josef Hohl, who used to work in the border guards' command before his dismissal at the start of the "normalization" era, replaced Josef Sabata as the new Interior Ministry troops' administration chief.

Chamber of Nations Notes Meetings, Resignations

LD2901224690 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 29 Jan 90

[Text] The Federal Assembly Chamber of Nations Presidium discussed in Prague today the preparation for tomorrow's eighth meeting, which will discuss extensive reorganization of the chamber and its bodies. It also discussed the preparation for the 23d joint meeting of the two chambers and voiced its agreement on holding this meeting tomorrow, after the end of separate meetings of the chambers.

The Chamber of Nations Presidium also noted the resignation of the following deputies: Evzen Erban, Josef Trejbal, Josef Andrs, Oldrich Heicman, Jirina Vesela, Mikulas Beno, Ivan Hrubjak, Jan Janik, Jan Marko, Miloslav Boda, Anton Hlavac, Nina Lefflerova, Vera Martincicova, Pavel Kays, and Michal Sabolcik.

The following deputies have been recalled: Jana Vesela, Anna Maresova, Jan Pampuch, Emil Hojnos, Jan Risko, Bedrich Svestka, Mikulas Sutka, Matej Lucan, and Miloslav Stancel. Deputy Hana Navratova has been recalled on health grounds. The mandates of these deputies expire today.

Dubcek Appoints Rehabilitation Commission

LD3001133490 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1130 GMT 30 Jan 90

[Text] Federal Assembly Chairman Alexander Dubcek has appointed a commission to rehabilitate Federal Assembly deputies who resigned for political reasons in the years after August 1968. The commission held its constituent meeting in Prague today, which discussed organizational and other issues.

Czech National Council Accepts Premier's Resignation

LD0502191490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] The Presidium of the Czech National Council today accepted the resignation of Czech Premier Frantisek Pitra, in accordance with the constitutional law on the Czechoslovak Federation. It also took note of resignations and the recalling of 31 deputies of the Czech National Council whose mandate ended today.

Circumstances of Jakes' House Purchase Queried

AU2401131190

[Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 23 January on page 3 carries a 1,100-word article by Vladimir Plzak entitled "Question Marks Over the Purchase of M. Jakes' Villa." The article discusses the "dirty methods" surrounding the purchase of Milos Jakes' 11-room villa on No. 5 Kozlovska Street in the "Hanspaulka" residential quarter of Prague in 1972. On the same page, under the headline "After a Visit to the Villa in Hanspaulka," RUDE PRAVO carries a 550-word Nada Adamickova- Dalibor Macha article on Milos Jakes' response to the accusations raised in Plzak's article.

Plzak's article is based on the "testimony" of Jan Seba from Plzen, the grandson of the villa's previous owner, who was involved in the negotiations on the villa's purchase. Seba says that in 1972 he was invited to the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] Central Committee where Vaclav Subrt, Milos Jakes' secretary (then chairman of the CPCZ Central and Auditing Commission), told him about Milos Jakes' interest in the house and, to Seba's "astonishment," even presented to him an official cost estimate, under which the villa was worth 104,000 korunas. When Seba refused to accept the cost estimate (because in 1968 the villa's value had been estimated at 350,000 korunas), he was reportedly reproached for "questioning the work of a CPCZ Central Committee expert" and told that he would never find a lawyer who will "stand up for you against the CPCZ Central Committee." Thereafter Seba broke off all contacts with Subrt and refused to continue the negotiations.

Seba's "testimony" continues as follows: "A few days later I was summoned to the police. I thought that it would be because of some traffic violation. To my horror I found out, however, that plainclothesmen were asking me questions that made me petrified. 'We have evidence that you had presented some parcels at the Chinese Embassy. You should realize that we can charge you with espionage. You could become quite old before you return from prison.'" Seba notes that it was clear to him that the incident was directly connected with Milos Jakes' interest in the house and that, after he informed his grandmother about it, she quickly gave her consent to the sale "under the buyer's terms."

In the Adamickova- Macha article, Milos Jakes narrates his own version of the transaction. He says that shortly before the purchase of the villa his doctors had recommended to him that, because of his lung condition, he should sleep in a room of his own. This could not be done in the 3-room apartment which he then occupied. "By coincidence," Jakes continues, his secretary told him that his neighbor, Doctor Seba, was selling his house. Initially Jakes reportedly hesitated because "the house was in a very shabby condition and badly in need of repair." Jakes also contests the claim of Jan Seba that his family did not want to sell the house and presents to the authors of the RUDE PRAVO article the copy of a statement signed by Seba's grandmother in 1971 (before Jakes became interested in the house), empowering her son to sell the house. According to Jakes, the official cost estimate on the basis of which Jakes purchased the villa also dates from 1971 and "could thus be destined for any prospective buyer." Jakes also emphasizes that, in addition to the purchase price, he had to pay over 150,000 korunas to repair the house and additional "tens of thousands" to install gas and a heating system. Asked about "pressures which accompanied the sale, as described by J. Seba," Jakes contends that he "does not know anything about this."

Adamickova and Macha conclude their article by saying: "We do not want to act as the judges or defenders of either side. The discrepancy between the two testimonies remains a fact."

Urbanek's 'Secret' Instructions on Dissidents

AU3001084290

[Editorial Report] Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech on 25 January on page 3 carries a 1,300-word "hp"-signed article entitled "File Number 'Central Committee 085/89' Secret." The article reprints a "secret" letter and two "annexes" which Karel Urbanek, the present chairman of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] Central Control and Auditing Commission, addressed to all leading secretaries of CPCZ regional and district committees in the Czech Socialist Republic on 22 August 1989, in his capacity as chairman of the Committee for Party Work in the Czech Socialist Republic. These documents, which the article describes as "one of the few written proofs of the control which the Communist Party used to exercise over our culture," lay down the guidelines to be followed in districts and regions with regard to "cultural workers and artists who have misused various cultural events for antisocialist and anticommunist sallies and who have long held the positions of illegal structures." More specifically, the documents contain the "principles" to be followed in dealing with artists who have signed the "A Few Sentences" manifesto. One of the annexes states, among other things, that public appearances by these artists are to be "substantially reduced" and that signatories of the manifesto should not participate in "large social and cultural events connected with peace festivals" and should not be given space in publications which are within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Culture.

The second annex consists of a list of artists and cultural workers who have signed "A Few Sentences." According to the MLADA FRONTA article, the documents were made available to it by reader J. Hovorka from Prague, who happened to "lay his hands on them last year." In an attached letter to MLADA FRONTA, J. Hovorka asks Karel Urbanek to provide an explanation.

Charges Brought Against Ex-Premier Strougal

*AU2201101890 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
18 Jan p 2*

[CTK report: "Penal Charges"]

[Excerpt] Prague— Penal charges have been lodged with the City Prosecutor's Office in Prague for crimes committed against detainees and prisoners in the case of Rudolf Barak and companions. The charges were lodged by Jiri Ondrasek, LLD, one of the persons accused in this criminal matter.

R. Barak, who held the post of minister of interior between 1953 and 1961 and the post of deputy premier between 1960 and 1962, was accused in 1962, together with other persons, of unlawful management of state resources, abuse of power, and personal enrichment and sentenced to 15 years. On the basis of Barak's complaint, the Supreme Court annulled the verdict on 18 July 1968 as unlawful. [passage omitted]

The charges have been brought against unknown offenders from the ranks of the leading officials of the Ministry of Interior who had prepared and supervised the trial against the interrogators, and against the personnel of the Ruzyne prison, particularly against its physicians and medical personnel. Charges have been brought specifically against L. Strougal, LLD, then minister of interior, and his deputy, Colonel J. Kotal. [passage omitted]

Havel's Adviser Claims To Be Under Surveillance

*AU3001084490 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak
26 Jan 90 p 7*

[CTK Vienna dispatch: "M. Knazko on the Illegal Secret Police Mafia"]

[Excerpts] Vienna (CTK correspondent)—Yesterday the mass-circulation Austrian daily NEUE KRONEN ZEITUNG published an article in which its author, together with Milan Knazko, president Havel's adviser, ponder the functioning of the secret police in Czechoslovakia. According to the article, the cold warriors have not given up and the Czechoslovak secret police continues to operate. "Officially, the secret police has been disbanded," Knazko points out. "However, these men and women carry on their work under an unknown leadership. The revolution has gone by them without their taking any notice. They keep us, the revolutionaries, stubbornly under pressure. We are being observed and threatened." [passage omitted] M. Knazko went on to say that the Slovak Government is burying its head in the sand and resists cadre changes in the state industry and agriculture. The daily notes that Havel's adviser stakes everything on the elections, knowing that the path toward them will be thorny. Knazko stressed that the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia leadership knows about their [not specified] every step, that the illegal state police mafia still functions. "However, they will crumble to pieces under our optimism," M. Knazko said.

Empty State Security Building Inspected

*LD0502173890 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak
1400 GMT 5 Feb 90*

[Text] Federal Interior Minister Richard Sacher, accompanied by journalists, inspected empty offices and corridors of the former second administration building of the State Security forces, situated in Thakur Street, Prague. The aim of the inspection was to show that the order issued on 1 February abolishing the remaining state security force units was carried out.

According to information issued by the Federal Interior Ministry, the rooms are empty, weapons and service identity cards have been handed over, and members of the State

Security forces are waiting at home to having their fitness to carry out their duties checked by civic and experts' commissions.

Interior Official Gives Update on Security Workers

LD0502210790 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Interior Minister Richard Sacher escorted journalists around the empty State Security building today. Only 70 counterintelligence workers of what was once a work force of 618 are allowed to enter the building. Deputy Interior Minister Dr. Prochaska spoke about the number of State Security members.

[Begin recording] [Prochazka] It is possible to state that there were about 18,000 State Security workers. The units which are of particular interest to us are those dealing with counterintelligence, and so on. In the whole of the Republic, one can now expect about 6,000.

[Reporter] Some of the tasks of the abolished counterintelligence workers will be taken over by the newly created Institution for the Protection of the Consituation and Democracy [ustav na ochranu ustavy a demokracie]. Civic commissions will decide which of the former members will have the opportunity to take part in its work. In the words of Dr. Prochazka, all members, apart from a few exceptions, handed in their weapons and identification cards. [end recording]

Minister Sacher also telephoned the home of an officer selected at random by one of the journalists present to check that the order that members should be at home had been carried out. The first person picked at random was not at home, but the officer on duty knew about him, and had a list of all those who were not going to be available at a given time.

Plzen Security Force Members Hand In Weapons

LD0502210990 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel (Lavicka), speaking at a meeting in Plzen main square on behalf of the Plzen regional command of the disbanded State Security force, said that 215 short-barrel firearms are to be handed in, and that the withdrawal of firearms permits will follow. He also said that Minister Sacher's order has been fulfilled.

Members of the State Security forces in Plzen handed in their identification papers and weapons, and their offices were sealed. This does not affect units responsible for the protection of state borders and the safety of flights at some airports. A Civic Forum representative, Jiri Sasek, said at the meeting that he was present to check on the fulfillment of the order. The news was applauded by the citizens.

Central Slovakia Regional Body Changes Reported

AU0102120590 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 31 Jan 90 p 2

["mb"-signed report: "New Deputies and Office Holders"]

[Excerpts] Banska Bystrica— An extraordinary plenary session of the Central Slovakia Regional National Committee was held in Banska Bystrica yesterday. The session was convened because of the urgent need to ensure the proper functioning of the plenum and of the Regional National Committee itself in the present situation. The composition of the plenum no longer corresponded to the balance of political forces in our society. [passage omitted] Of the Regional National Committee's 107 deputies, 30 have resigned or have been recalled and 32 new deputies have been elected in their stead. Most of them, 14, are members of the Democratic Party. [passage omitted] Members of the plenum released Zoltan Bocz, chairman of the Central Slovakia Regional National Committee, from his post. They also released two deputy chairmen, the secretary, three section heads, as well as some members of the council and some chairmen of Regional National Committee commissions. Branislav Petroch, LLD, until now secretary of the Central Slovakia Regional National Committee, has been elected its new chairman. [passage omitted]

Slovakia CP's Salgovic Commits Suicide

LD0602094190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0900 GMT 6 Feb 90

[Text] Viliam Salgovic, former member of the Presidium of the Communist Party of Slovakia Central Committee, chairman of the Slovak National council, and chairman of the Slovak Central Committee of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Society, committed suicide in Bratislava last night. He was found by his wife at about 2130 after hanging himself in the laundry room of their family house in (Mudronova) Street. According to the first results of investigations, involvement of another person has ben ruled out. The public will be informed when the case is closed.

Slovakia: Rapid Rise in Crime Since Revolution

AU0102120890 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 31 Jan 90 p 2

[Antonia Vymazalova report: "Topical Tasks"]

[Excerpts] Bratislava (from our correspondent)— Vladimir Meciar, minister of interior and the environment of the Slovak Socialist Republic, his deputies, and the chief of the Main Administration of the Public Security Corps briefed journalists about topical tasks of the ministry's security, civil administration, and environment sectors yesterday. [passage omitted]

As far as the crime rate in Slovakia is concerned, last year it declined, with the exception of East Slovakia. More interesting, however, is the development in January this year—16 murders were registered, compared with 5 in the same period last year. There was also an increase in the number of robberies (54 compared with last year's 18), rapes (17 compared with 7), and house burglaries (894 compared with 409 last January). The damage caused by house burglaries increased from less than 2.5 million korunas last January to 8.5 million korunas. [passage omitted]

Slovak Premier Meets PAV Representatives

LD0602002490 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Milan Cic, Slovak Socialist Republic premier, received in Bratislava today the representatives of the Coordination Committee of Public Against Violence [PAV] from Slovak coal mines, the representatives of newly elected trade unions, and the delegates of miners' collectives. Fedor Gal, representative of the PAV Coordination Committee in Slovakia, took part in the meeting.

The miners' representatives told the premier about their conviction that the Ministry of Fuel and Energy is acting in an indecisive and wait-and-see manner in solving the complex situation in Slovak coal mines, particularly in implementing the necessary personnel changes in the management of the state enterprise, where the previous leading management lost trust. Irrespective of justified demands, no headway has been made yet in cutting administrative and management apparatus of the former directorate general in the course of changing it into a state enterprise.

The Slovak premier accepted the demands of the miners and other workers. He identified with them and will discuss them with Frantisek Pinc, minister of fuel and energy.

Mr Milan Cic also received in Bratislava today representatives of the heavy engineering works in Dubnica and Vahom. The topic of the discussion was the serious economic and social situation in the enterprise following reduction in the production of special equipment. The premier also promised his unequivocal backing in the discussion in the federal government of the problems of the state enterprise heavy engineering works combine in Martin. The meeting was organized and attended by the representatives of the forum of coordination committees of the working people of Slovakia.

Public Polled on Views on Privatization, CPCZ

AU0502143290

[Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 2 February carries a 300-word "dam"-signed report on a news conference given by the Civic Forum in Prague on 1 February. The same news conference is also the subject of a 600-word "pat"-signed report published by Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech on 2 February on page 7.

The RUDE PRAVO report quotes Marek Boguszak of the "Group for Independent Social Analysis" on the results of the group's survey of public opinion on privatization. Boguszak is quoted as saying that "62 percent of 2,500 respondents expressed themselves in favor of enterprises switching into private ownership; as Boguszak said, the limit of 50 or more employees is regarded as reasonable for such a private enterprise." The MLADA FRONTA report cites the results of the same group's survey of public opinion on the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ]. This survey reportedly indicated that "by 19 January the CPCZ lost between 600,000 and 800,000 of its members, with the upper limit being more likely, and an additional one-third of CPCZ members was considering leaving the party. Of the remaining CPCZ members, only 52 percent said that they would vote for the CPCZ."

Minister Queried on 1989, 1990 Budgets

AU0202124990 Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak 1 Feb 90 p 3

[Interview with Vaclav Klaus, minister of finance, by CTK correspondent Josef Pravec, in Prague on 30 January: "Expression of New Economic Policy"]

[Text] The so-called Financial Council, a consultative body composed of the ministers of finance and the State Bank chairman, met on 30 January to discuss the 1990 budget. In this connection CTK correspondent Josef Pravec asked Vaclav Klaus, CSSR minister of finance, for an interview.

[Pravec] Could you explain why the government has not submitted to parliament for discussion the original draft of the state budget that has already been prepared?

[Klaus] To be brief, the prepared state budget for 1990 which the Federal Government approved on 30 November provided for a deficit. The open budget deficit amounted to 5.1 billion korunas and the hidden one to about 10 billion korunas. In other words, the budget had a clearly inflationary character.

The state budget for 1990 did not provide for any major intervention into the overall volume of noninvestment appropriations, even though this was to be the first year of the much-touted major acceleration of the restructuring of the economic mechanism. While some subsidies were to be cut, other subsidies were to be increased or newly introduced, with the result that on aggregate subsidies were to increase 1.8 percent. The budget also foresaw a further increase in the negative turnover tax. The budget did not envisage any large-scale intervention into defense expenditures, although cuts in defense expenditures were customary in the neighboring countries, to say nothing of security expenditures. At variance with the preceding years, the budget foresaw a significant increase in investment appropriations for economic organizations (21 percent).

[Pravec] How is one to look, in light of this, at the development of the state budget so far, particularly at the

1989 budget? Were the ongoing changes in the economic mechanism reflected in the state budget in any way?

[Klaus] The economic reform that was launched (the so-called restructuring of the economic mechanism) introduced a number of discontinuities into the budget economy that will be only very hard to tackle this year. The year 1989 saw an unsuccessful restructuring (actually an increase) of procurement and wholesale prices, partial changes in the economic mechanism in the agriculture-food complex and in retailing, an adjustment of financial and economic instruments in foreign trade, the adoption of a set of measures aimed at reinforcing the national committees' own revenue base, and, concurrently, a rapid growth in the social consumption of the population.

The results of the year 1989 in the budget economy are very unfavorable. Although for the time being we must proceed from preliminary data, we can say for sure that the growth of the state budget revenues was slower than planned, while the growth of expenditures was faster than planned. The end-of-the-year state budget account ended with a deficit of 5.5 billion korunas, but it is to be expected that in the so-called supplemental period (in which, above all, some investment expenditures are realized) the budget economy will deteriorate further. We can thus assume that the overall deficit of the state budget will reach the sum of approximately 10 billion korunas. It is possible that some other items will have the opposite effect, yet it is clear that the real deficit will amount to between 7 and 8 billion korunas, in spite of the fact that as early as toward the end of last year brakes were put on the payment of some subsidies to loss-making enterprises.

[Pravec] How could this happen?

[Klaus] This is a result of a combination of various factors, among which the growth in noninvestment appropriations, which increased by 20.4 percent in 1989, ranks first.

Social consumption of the population financed from the state budget increased 6.6 percent last year, which was much more than both the growth of national income and the growth of state budget revenues. In spite of our dissatisfaction with the standard of Czechoslovak medical care, it needs to be said that expenditures on medical care rose 9.3 percent last year, which was much more than the growth of all other items. Spending on education and culture, too, is growing faster than national income and it is therefore impossible to expect that spending on them will speed up very much in the near future. All these matters and connections will have to be explained to the Czechoslovak public in great detail.

Problems also arose in the budget revenues, chiefly in the turnover tax where, due to the restructuring of prices, negative turnover tax increased from 30 billion to 48 billion korunas—that is, by more than 50 percent! Staple foods and fuels account for the lion's share of the volume of the negative turnover tax, with dairy products accounting for 13.3 billion korunas, meat and meat products for 11.9 billion korunas, and solid fuels for 5 billion korunas. The negative turnover tax reduces the state budget's revenues and significantly contributes to the budget deficit.

The problems of the 1989 budget clearly indicate the direction for the 1990 budget. A question that remains to be answered is how the 1989 state budget deficit will be financed.

[Pravec] How, then, will the year 1990 be approached, from the viewpoint of the long-standing problems accumulated in the budget economy?

[Klaus] The starting point of our considerations is a serious analysis of the preceding period. This analysis must include, first, the analysis of long-term, unfavorable trends in our fiscal policy and of the gradual evolution of a blind alley into which we have been led by the pressure of changing economic conditions (external as well as internal) and by the pressure of some autonomously growing components of budget expenditures (social consumption). Second, it must include the analysis of the sharp short-term deterioration of financial balance in 1989, the consequence of the half-hearted start of an insufficiently prepared reform process by the economic center, which was slowly starting to let the reins of the Czechoslovak economy go.

The state budget of the Czechoslovak Federation for 1990, as a cumulative expression of the new economic policy, therefore has two basic objectives. On the one hand, it must have a significantly anti-inflationary character—that is, in close interaction with monetary policy it must prevent the emergence of inflation. On the other hand, it must be a budget which will open a process of transforming the Czechoslovak economy towards a market economy. As such, it must be a budget of transformation, indicating a clear discontinuity with the past. Both these objectives are absolutely irreplaceable at present and none of them should be sacrificed to satisfy some other objective of the Czechoslovak economy in this period, no matter how attractive this other objective may sound. Any pressures working against these objectives, should any be brought to bear on such a concept of the budget, must be rejected very strongly by financial bodies in cooperation with the entire government and the banking system. We must be able to explain this new concept of financial policy to the Czechoslovak public and must ask it to protect this concept—in its own interest—against any pressures working in the opposite direction. We have no other option.

Radio Begins 'Regular Religious Broadcasts'

LD0402161190 Prague CTK in English 1434 GMT 4 Feb 90

[Text] Prague Feb 4 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Radio started today its regular religious broadcasts of its newly created editorial office of religious life by a direct transmission of Sunday's worship from Olomouc, north Moravia, which is the centre of one of the three Czechoslovak archdioceses.

According to unofficial data there are only 20 per cent of strict atheists in Czechoslovakia and therefore the religious broadcasting is believed to be able to gain the same popularity as e.g. in neighbouring Austria where the series of religious programs belong to the most popular. A debate about the role of faith in the world at the end of the 20th century which has been already broadcast by Czechoslovak Radio was received by Czechoslovak public with considerable interest, members of the newly established editorial office have told CTK.

Part of the regular religious broadcasting—70 to 90 minutes weekly—will be, besides the transmissions of worships, also reading from the Bible and various debates. Approximately one-half of the broadcasting time should belong to the Catholic Church as the biggest number of Czechoslovak believers and Catholics.

Czechoslovak Radio and Television broadcast directly at the end of last year the Prague Christmas Eve mass and the Christmas message of the pope which was unprecedented in the past 40 years. There were no regular religious radio programs in Czechoslovakia even before the war.

New Radio Director To Set Up Foreign Department

LD0502133190 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1100 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Frantisek Pavlicek, the newly appointed central director of Czechoslovak radio, received today Karel Stary, former central director, after his return from Paris. They have agreed on cooperation and on the setting up of a foreign department of Czechoslovak radio. Frantisek Pavlicek appointed Karel Stary to the post of director of the new department.

New Green Party Ecological Magazine Published

AU0402221090 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 25 Jan 90 p 2

[CTK report: "A New Magazine"]

[Text] Prague—Since 6 January, when Green Party representatives from Slovakia, Moravia, and Bohemia convened, the party has acted as one. Now it is working hard on its program and articles which will be put forward for discussion at the first Green Party congress, to take place in Brno on 17 February. Party representatives consider it essential, first and foremost, to win supporters not only for its ecological program. Beginning on 13 February the magazine ZELENI [GREENS] will provide greater details on party activity. At first it will be published every fortnight; later it will be published every week. Articles on the actual ecological situation in our country can now be sent to the editorial office's temporary headquarters at 34 Rehorova Street, Prague 3.

Thousands Take Part in Leipzig Demonstration

LD0502190790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1812 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Leipzig (ADN)—Thoughts about peace, justice, and the preservation of nature shaped the prayers for peace before the traditional demonstration in Leipzig today. Some days ago, the Evangelical-Lutheran Superintendenture of Leipzig-west had addressed the public with a call for a security partnership between the parties and democratic groupings, the demonstrators and the People's Police. The almost 100,000 demonstrators took this statement to heart.

During the rally on the Karl-Marx-Platz, at which representatives of various parties and movements spoke, those who see "Germany, United Fatherland" not as an immediate measure but as a process of growing together were whistled at.

Almost all the parties distributed position papers, including members of the FRG Republicans. The newest slogan at the Leipzig rally was "Even Mr. Modrow has realized, Germany United Fatherland."

Further on Demonstrations

LD0502185990 Hamburg DPA in German 1744 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—In Leipzig and many other cities in the GDR this evening there have again been demonstrations for German unification, and at the same time demands for the dissolution of the former SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany]—now the PDS [Party for Democratic Socialism]. In Leipzig alone there were about 100,000 demnstrators.

The event in Leipzig began in front of the opera house with a rally, at which representatives of various parties put forward their programs and objectives. Thus, the electoral campaign has now become an official component of the Leipzig Monday demonstration. Jochen Laessig of New Forum said that at the subsequent demonstrations, too, the party representatives, as well as independent citizens, should be able to explain their objectives.

This time in particular, many green-and-white state flags of Saxony mingled with the many hundred black-red-and-gold flags. Slogans and banners read: "No vote for SED-PDS," "Dispossess the SED," "Germany, Germany," and "Germany, United Fatherland."

Many party representatives had again traveled from the Federal Republic to Leipzig, and they distributed publicity material. The Republikaner had a banner some seven meters wide, which was held by several people. It calls for vigilance against the SED-PDS and the SPD [Socialist Democratic Party].

The GDR People's Chamber resolved at its meeting today to ban for the time being the activities of the right-wing radical Republikaner in the GDR.

Rallies in Dresden, Suhl

LD0502191890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1848 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Excerpt] Dresden (ADN)—"A healthy health service" was the demand of the staff of the "Carl Gustav Carus" medical academy at the traditional Monday demonstration in Dresden. They called upon their colleagues in the area to join them in wearing their professional clothing and in demanding fast and effective measures for health service institutions.

As at previous Monday demonstrations, the procession of several tens of thousands of demonstrators through the city center was marked by white-and-green flags of Saxony and the "black, red, and gold without an emblem."

Suhl (ADN)—At a New Forum rally in front of the town hall of Suhl, spokespeople of this citizens' movement explained their positions on the electoral law, on the unification of the two German states, on problems in the health service, and on tasks facing trade and commerce in the city. [passage omitted]

Official on 'Cross-Border Employment' Problems

LD0502180590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1729 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—GDR Deputy Minister of Labor and Salaries Dr. Ingolf Noack replied to questions about the problems of "cross-border employment" at the roundtable on Monday [5 February]. He referred to the FRG's attitude that FRG employers could not deny employment to GDR citizens. This meant that there would be an inevitable drain of GDR labor resources.

This attitude on the part of the FRG was described as unacceptable by other speakers. Above all, New Forum rejected a program still under discussin that would lay down tax rules for work by GDR citizens in the FRG, since it could not guarantee a forward-looking development. [passage omitted]

Social Democrats Oppose Roundtable Decision

LD0502221390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2038 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The SPD [Social Democratic Party] has voted against the decision of the roundtable not to admit foreign politicians [as speakers] to the elections in the GDR. SPD press spokesman Steffen Reiche informed ADN of this on Monday evening. The SPD noted this recommendation of the roundtable, but, for its part, it will not curb the right to free speech either to foreign citizens or to citizens of the FRG. This is tantamount to a censorship of expression of opinion, for the abolition of which the SPD has been campaigning for the past few months. The SPD is a member of the Socialist International and will adhere to its good tradition of mutual support. [passage omitted]

17th Chamber Session To Discuss German Question

LD0502152190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1255 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—The People's Chamber has declared as illegal and banned the activity of the Republicans on GDR territory. This applies also to successor and replacement organizations with different names that pursue the same objectives. The interior minister was charged with implementing this resolution. The ban, which was accepted with one "no" vote and four abstentions, is valid until a future party law is adopted. [passage omitted]

The 17th People's Chamber session has been set for 20 and 21 February, when, acording to a motion introduced today, a debate on the German question is also on the agenda.

The discussion this morning had to be suspended for 15 minutes because of a bomb threat.

New Council of Ministers Members Sworn In

LD0502151290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1317 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—In accordance with Article 79, paragraph 4, of the Constitution, Dr. Manfred Gerlach, acting chairman of the GDR State Council, in the presence of Dr. Hans Modrow, chairman of the Council of Ministers, today swore in the new members of the Council of Ministers elected by the People's Chamber: Tatjana Boehm, Rainer Eppelmann, Sebastian Pflugbiel, Matthias Platzeck, Gerd Poppe, Dr. Walter Romberg, Klaus Schlueter, and Dr. Wolfgang Ullmann on the GDR Constitution.

The State Council press office reports that he also congratulated them on behalf of the State Council on their election and wished them much success and creative strength in their function in the government of national responsibility.

Press Freed From Government Control

LD0502180190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1338 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—All citizens, male and female, have the right to express their views freely. [passage omitted]

The differences still in existence at the previous People's Chamber session regarding views held on this subject by the roundtable have been resolved, People's Chamber President Maleuda said. Accordingly, the ADN news agency—in addition to radio and television—is an independent public institution not under the control of the government. Until radio and television have been transformed into public institutions and ADN into a news agency under public control with a legally changed status, the state is to guarantee their financing. [passage omitted]

Text of Modrow Speech to People's Chamber

LD0502170390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1230 GMT 5 Feb 90

["Text" of speech by Premier Hans Modrow to the 16th session of the People's Chamber in Berlin on 5 February]

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Mr. President, honored deputies, ladies and gentlemen:

A week ago I reported to the People's Chamber on my latest discussions with all the parties and groups represented at the roundtable. I would like to remind you that I was supported there in my efforts, and that a consensus was achieved in three respects:

1. If the People's Chamber agrees, the election of the People's Chamber should be brought forward to 18 March—I once again request this agreement today—and 6 May should be kept for the election of people's representatives for the towns and communities. I gave the reasons for this, honored deputies, on 29 January. The situation in the country requires it. In the past week the situation has, if anything, worsened, in that the shutdown of several enterprises in basic industries, caused by ecological concerns, is having a particularly severe impact. As a result of this shutdown, production at other enterprises is affected. The discussions at the roundtable today make it clear that there are still differing standpoints, but that a majority represents the standpoint that 18 March should be fixed as the election date.

2. A minister should be appointed by me to liaise between the government and the roundtable. I have reached agreement with my deputy for local state organs, Mr. Dr. Peter Moreth, that he will take on this task. In this way, stable and responsible cooperation can be ensured for the coming weeks for the government's part. Mr. Ullmann has also expressed his readiness to be involved in such work. It would be a good thing, on his confirmation as a member of the council of ministers, to create here a coordinated form of cooperation between Mr. Ullmann and Mr. Peter Moreth.

3. Again subject to the agreement of the People's Chamber, the government should be expanded in the form of persons to be nominated by the new parties and groups who should join in its work as ministers, and in particular be involved in the decision-making in the Council of Ministers.

The names of these persons have been given to me. I have already held discussions with them in order to assure myself of their readiness and to discuss with them the basis of their work. The coalition government existing to date would in this way be expanded into a government of national responsibility. It will see its main task as being to promote and preserve the urgently needed stability for internal development, and to introduce further steps aimed at reform until the confirmation of a new government by the new People's Chamber.

A new quality of political cooperation can arise with a government of national responsibility—a quality that can become effective beyond March of this year. Of course, the idea that 13 parties and political groups will now be involved in the government's development of an informed opinion is unusual, at least for the GDR. On the other hand, I think that it is wide-ranging cooperation, the acceptance of responsibility on a broad basis, and the establishment of consensus from a broad spectrum of opinion, that is just what is needed right now. Should the government reach 18 March reasonably intact, and afterward continue to local elections on 6 May in peace, as has been suggested, then we need a national responsibility that appears in the composition of the government.

We need a national responsibility that will be visible, above all in the behavior of all citizens. Part of this means securing economic performance through labor, and also guaranteeing the functioning of all services for the citizens in the towns and communities, including the necessary administrative work. The observance of national responsibility on all levels protects us from damage that, if it is permitted or occurs, would affect each one of us in the final analysis.

Likewise the subject of the 6 May 1989 elections requires standpoints that guarantee the continued work of the local organs; and the fact that now-constant accusations are being leveled does not help to offer this certainty, but permits constantly new nationwide uncertainty. Other than in a broad responsibility, the GDR can no longer be governed.

This expanded government is at the same time meant to offer the opportunity to expand my government delegation that will participate in the working meeting between the FRG federal chancellor and the GDR prime minister in Bonn on 13 February. It is in this spirit that I ask the People's chamber to elect the following as members of the Council of Ministers, and to confirm as members without portfolio: Mrs. Tatjana Boehm (Independent Women's Association), Mr. Rainer Eppelmann (Democratic Awakening), Mr. Sebastian Pflugbeil (New Forum), Mr. Mathias Platzeck (Green Party), Mr. Gerhard Poppe (Initiative for Peace and Human Rights), Mr. Dr. Walter Romberg (Social Democractic Party), Mr. Klaus Schlueter (Green League), Mr. Dr. Wolfgang Ullman (Democracy Now).

Ladies and gentlemen: Please allow me to say a word on the idea of moving toward German unity that I submitted to the public at the Council of Ministers news conference on 1 February.

It is part of the prime minister's responsibility not only to influence beyond the present day political and economic decisions that lie within his competence, but to contribute to the formation of political views within the framework of the policy that he supports. I have emphasized right from the beginning that I do not intend to carry out my task in the interest of a party, but that I will act in the interest of the people to whom I am ultimately duty bound, something that includes constant accountability to the People's Chamber.

Therefore, I decided on the proposals for the way toward German unity since, in my view, it is the demand of the hour to make a constructive offer on this basic political issue. I hope this offer will promote the necessary public discussion on such a vital national concern, and that it will show realistic ways for the inevitable process of rapprochement and eventual union of the two German states.

The unification of the two German states is about to be placed on the agenda. This is an observation that, in my view, must be made in order to be creditable as a Realpolitiker, as a Realpolitiker who does not run after the will of the majority of the German nation, but takes account of that will. At the same time, another observation must be emphasized that is likewise contained in that conception—no, which even represents the second of its supporting pillars: The way toward German unity must be embarked upon responsibly. It must not run counter to all-European interests or the interests of individual countries, but must be a way in Europe and for Europe, must serve peace, threaten no one, and respect the postwar borders. A united Germany is only conceivable and justifiable as a factor of political stability, trust, peace in Europe, as a contribution to a necessary, possible, and cooperative Europe that is perhaps already emerging. The solution to the national question is and remains a great challenge to consciously international thinking and action, especially by the Germans. As regards my idea for a way to a unified Germany, I was, right from the start, by no means certain that this proposal would meet with the unanimous approval in all its points. For that the interests, including the international ones, are too varied.

Thus there is opposition to the idea of a military, and I repeat, military, neutralization of the future single Germany. Well, let there be discussion on that contentious issue in order to arrive at an acceptable solution that will take into account the security requirements of the interested, and indeed affected, parties. Why not start, for instance, by reducing the mutual military presence on the territory of the present two German states, as already under discussion? Other solutions could also be tried.

I know myself to be at one with many Germans when I emphasize: the fewer soldiers, the fewer weapons here in Central Europe, the more peaceful our life. Surely there must be a way leading toward that, even if the necessary steps are to be totally agreed and executed only after the unfication of the two states. On that point we ought to practice some patience.

The unity of the German nation, ladies and gentlemen, has, despite all the attempts at demolition, never disappeared. But since 1945 different legal conditions have developed in the four occupation zones, and in the two German states. If the discussion on the unification of the two states now enters, as it seems to me, a front-page stage, then the clarification and safeguarding of legal positions should play a primary role. I am thinking of all those legal acts linked to the expropriation of property on the basis of the Potsdam Agreement. As you know, in this respect the two states have proceeded quite differently. I am thinking also of the farmland in the GDR whose legal title I consider undeniable. Thus, if the two states are to grow together relatively quickly, then not only must certain social values, which have to be introduced, be taken into account, but certain adaptations will also be needed. These range from the different wage and pension structures to the necessary legal adaptations that I already mentioned in my concept of a unified Germany. I therefore share the view expressed by Mr. Kohl in Davos that the way to German unity is no mechanistic event that is planned or even forced with the help of a timetable and stopwatch. Furthermore, it is my view that such an attempt, and I again quote the federal chancellor, would be to the highest degree unhistorical and irresponsible. It would be just as unhistorical to oppose the interests and wishes of all those who have come out clearly for one Germany. Mindful of the impatience of many citizens in both states, I have spoke of a sensible timetable for unification. This can and must not be misunderstood. I am by no means advocating that the start of tackling this task be delayed, neither am I raising harmful preconditions. But such a process that should lead to a good outcome, and only to a good outcome, cannot be a rash and impetuous step.

The responsibility of the Germans, which, as you know, is particularly great, should show itself in a growing together and not a nailing together. The responsibility of the Federal Republic and its government, if I may add this, should show itself in a solidarity contribution, effective in the short term, to stabilizing supplies and industrial production in the GDR. This has been under discussion since the Dresden meeting with Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl. In his conversation with me in Davos on 4 February, the federal chancellor indicated that the Federal Government is now prepared for such support. My government's ideas were already explained and presented at the Dresden meeting in December and during the negotiations with Chancellery Minister Seiters in January.

The fact that the Federal Government intends to refute, with aid on a new scale and before 18 March, the assumption often expressed in our country that the intention was to allow the GDR to crumble is to be very much welcomed. By letting it crumble one would not have done a service to stability in Europe, or to the people in our country. The government's responsibility for economic development necessitates this open talking. A unification of the two German states should certainly be a bringing together of two reasonably compatible economies and currencies, and a few joint ventures are insufficient for this.

Honored deputies, permit me after these remarks, which were also close to my heart, to repeat the proposal for a responsible national dialogue. I also see a good opportunity for this especially on 13 and 14 February in Bonn.

But above all I would like to call on the citizens of the GDR to refrain from doing anything, I repeat anything, that damages our economy, and the supplies to and care of the citizens. I would like to say to whoever thinks, for example, that the demonstrative journey made by many ambulances to Berlin, as happened last week, was a good idea: It is a good deed to look after sick people, to employ working power, working hours, ambulances, and fuel correctly for this. Where settlements are necessary they have to be discussed and negotiated. Whoever wishes to force their way here with national economic losses has to be made aware that car demonstrations and strikes lead and contribute to nothing good, but only to the worsening of their own situation. Let everyone answer to his conscience, and also to his fellow citizens about this.

That means that I call on the citizens of the GDR to utilize all potentials for production, supply, and care for an improvement in our situation. Only, and only, in this way, let me say quite clearly, will we reach 18 March properly, and we should stick to this election date absolutely. Everyone may think that afterward, too, only work results will count. But I, and along with me my whole government, take my hat off to all those fellow citizens who are doing their duty selflessly during these months, are fulfilling their tasks, keeping the economy going, guaranteeing daily life. They are the nameless heroes of the democratic revolution that we are implementing at present and shaping together. They deserve the thanks of the government, this parliament, and of all of the people. Thank you for your attention.

Armored Personnel Carriers To Be Scrapped

LD0202095790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0915 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Over the next few weeks, armored personnel carriers [APC's] of the GDR border troops will be scrapped. A statement issued by the border troops says that this will be carried out either on-site or via intermediary depots. On 5 February, the first 100 APC's will be moved to the Neubrandenburg repair works. This measure is part of the reforms being carried out among the GDR border troops.

Government Denies Security Office Allegations

LD0202160690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1440 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The claim made in an evening program on 1 February by the Peter Schamoni GmbH Television Company that work was still being carried out in the same fashion at the former Office for National Security lacks any foundation and must be rejected as a "canard." This was stated to ADN today by the government representative for the dissolution of the former Office of National Security as well as the Berlin-Zentrale [headquarters] citizens' initiative.

As far as the former central National Security Office in Normannen Street was concerned, its viability in the sense of continuing the tasks of the former State Security Ministry, no longer existed, it is added. The former Office for National Security thus no longer had any viability either. The 600 or so staff members still in the former Office for National Security are exclusively carrying out tasks in connection with the continuing dissolution of these institutions on behalf of the government representative and in coordination with the citizens' committee.

However, this applies exclusively to the staff of the personnel bodies, the finance department, and supply services. In the interests of avoiding losses on a scale that would affect the economy, of preparing the handing over of installations to new legal ownership, the removal of automobile technology, typewriters, photocopying machinery, and other technology, the dissolution of the former office could only proceed gradually and thus in a specific process.

The public is being regularly informed about the progress made in the dissolution of the Office of National Security, the joint statement by the government representative and citizens' committee says in conclusion.

SPD's Boehme Discusses Unification Issues

LD0502153390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1450 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Bonn (ADN)—In the opinion of Ibrahim Boehme, business manager of the Social Democratic Party in the GDR, the two German states should concentrate on gradual disarmament in the demilitarization issue. He regarded it as possible to dissolve the two military blocs in the next 10 years at the latest, he said in an interview with the Hamburg magazine STERN, prereleased to ADN today in edited form. According to this, Boehme said he also regarded it as necessary "for the victorious powers to remain—symbolically—militarily present on German soil for a long period of time, even during and after the process of unification." The process of unification between the two German states will, in Boehme's view, be concluded in the next two years. During this time, the GDR will also be anchored in the European internal market. The Federal Republic must "reach deep into its pocket if it is interested in unity," Boehme said. A staged plan must be worked out for the economic development of the GDR, which could become the "real country of economic miracle."

Paper Publishes Draft Election Law

AU0202190190 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 30 Jan 90 p 3

["Draft law" on election to the GDR People's Chamber issued in Berlin—date not given]

[Text] Law on the election to the GDR People's Chamber of....

I. Election Principles and Election System

Section 1

(1) The elections to the People's Chamber take place on the basis of the GDR Constitution, this election law, and the election regulations passed for this purpose.

(2) The People's Chamber consists of 400 deputies.

Section 2

(1) The People's Chamber deputies are elected for a term of four years in free, general, equal, direct, and secret ballot by the GDR citizens eligible to vote.

(2) Exercising one's right to vote is based on the voter's free decision.

Section 3

(1) Every GDR citizen who has completed his 18th year is eligible to vote at the People's Chamber elections.

(2) Not eligible are:

1. people who are legally placed under the care of a guardian;

2. people who have been stripped of their civic rights as a result of a final judgment.

(3) The right to vote is suspended in the case of citizens who have been committed to a psychiatric institution because of an abnormal mental dysfunction on the basis of the valid legal regulation, as well as in the case of citizens who have been placed under temporary guardianship or under curatorship because of mental handicaps.

Section 4

(1) Every GDR citizen who has completed his 18th year by election day can be elected to the People's Chamber.

(2) Not eligible for election are:

1. people who are not eligible to vote in line with section 3, subsection 2, or whose right to vote is suspended in line with section 3, subsection 3;

2. people who have been legally sentenced to prison terms and whose sentence has not yet been served.

Section 5

(1) The elections are held in line with the principles of proportional representation.

(2) Every voter has one vote, which he casts for the list of a party or political association.

II. Election Preparation

Section 6

(1) The elections are announced 60 days before the election day at the latest. New elections take place 60 days at the latest after the expiration of the legislative period or the dissolution of the People's Chamber.

(2) The electoral area is divided into 15 electoral districts. Each electoral district receives a number.

(3) The division of the electoral area into electoral districts and the number of deputies that are to be elected in one district result from the addendum to this law.

Section 7

(1) The election commission of every electoral district sets down the voting districts and the polling places.

(2) One voting district should not comprise more than 1,500 people eligible to vote, but it must not be so small that the secrecy of the vote is in danger.

(3) The formation of voting districts is to be announced 30 days before election day at the latest.

Section 8

(1) Election proposals can be submitted by parties and political associations.

(2) Parties or political associations that express hatred against denominations, races, and peoples and that engage in military propaganda or baiting for war, remain excluded from the elections. The decision about this for the election in question is taken by the GDR Electoral Commission.

(3) Members of parties that participate in the elections must not be included in the lists of political associations.

(4) The parties and political associations nominate their candidates for the individual electoral districts in a binding sequence. They can nominate up to four candidates more than there are seats for the electoral district.

(5) A candidate may run only in one electoral district for a party or political association.

Section 9

(1) Only a person who, in a secret ballot, has been given the confidence of the majority present at a members' or representatives' assembly—which forms a quorum—of the party or political association can be nominated as a candidate.

(2) The candidates are to have stable links with their electoral district. They are to present themselves to the voters in their electoral district with their political goals and explain them.

Section 10

The GDR Electoral Commission calls by public announcement—45 days before election day at the latest—for the submission of election proposals. The election proposals are to be submitted to the responsible electoral commission of the electoral district 30 days before election day at the latest.

Section 11

The election proposals of the parties and political associations must contain:

1. the complete name of the party or the political association as well as the current acronym in letters;

2. the candidates in a binding order;

3. proof of at least 1,000 statements, signed personally and by hand, of citizens who are eligible to vote and live in the respective electoral district;

4. the signature of at least three authorized representatives of the central leadership organ (executive committee);

5. information about the person of the candidate: first and last name, year and place of birth, profession and current work, address;

6. the written statement by the candidate that he agrees with his nomination and that his candidacy is not impeded by anything else;

7. the certificate of the local council responsible for the candidate's place of residence concerning the fact that the candidate is eligible for election.

Section 12

The respective political party or association has to nominate a confidant and a deputy for every proposal for an electoral district.

They are authorized to make and accept binding statements on the electoral district proposals.

Section 13

(1) The election proposals that are submitted must be examined by the electoral commission of the electoral district within 3 days.

(2) The election proposals, which correspond to the legal requirements, are to be registered by the electoral commission of the electoral district.

(3) If the election proposals show defects concerning section 11, the electoral commission immediately informs the persons responsible for the electoral district proposals or the direct candidates named in section 12 and requests them to eliminate these defects.

(4) Election proposals are not registered if:

1. the preconditions listed in section 8 (2) for exclusion from participation in the elections exist;

2. if the period for submission of the election proposals in line with section 10 has expired;

3. if the defects pointed out by the electoral commission are have not been eliminated by the end of the period for submitting the election proposals;

4. if confidants have not been named in line with section 12.

(5) Decisions by the electoral commission of the electoral district in line with subsection 4 numbers 2 to 4 can be appealed within three days at the GDR Electoral Commission. The decision on the complaint has to be taken by the 21st day before the elections at the latest.

Section 14

(1) By the 18th day before the elections, the GDR Electoral Commission sets down bindingly:

1. which parties and political associations will participate in the election;

2. the number of the list in line with the alphabetic order of the names of parties and political associations.

These matters are to be officially published.

(2) By the 18th day before the elections, the electoral commissions for the electoral districts set down bindingly which parties and political associations will participate in the elections in the respective electoral district.

These decisions, as well as the election proposals, are to be published officially in the electoral districts by the electoral commissions.

Section 15

(1) The election proposals cannot be changed or withdrawn after their official publication unless a candidate loses his eligibility for election or dies.

(2) In this case, the parties and political associations have the right to nominate other candidates until the fifth day before election day. Candidates of a list who are nominated later receive the bottom place on the list.

III. Electoral Commissions and Electoral Committees

Section 16

(1) The People's Chamber elections are organized by democratically formed, publicly working electoral commissions.

(2) The following are formed:

1. the GDR Electoral Commission, consisting of the chairman, two deputies, other members, and a secretary;

2. the electoral commissions of the electoral districts, consisting of the chairman, a deputy, other members, and a secretary.

The secretaries do not have the right to vote in the commissions.

(3) The parties and political associations, which participate in the elections, send two representatives each to the electoral commissions.

(4) Candidates for the People's Chamber elections cannot be members of the electoral commissions.

Section 17

(1) The GDR Electoral Commission is formed by a decision of the People's Chamber. It starts work 50 days before election day at the latest.

(2) The GDR Electoral Commission appoints the members of the electoral commissions of the electoral districts upon proposal by the parties and political associations. These commissions start their work 45 days before the elections at the latest.

(3) The electoral commissions elect the chairman and the deputies in a secret ballot from among their members.

(4) The composition of the electoral commissions is to be officially published.

(5) The electoral commissions remain in existence until the 90th day after the elections.

Section 18

(1) The electoral committees are to be formed 15 days before election day at the latest by the electoral commissions of the electoral districts. The parties and political associations have to submit their proposals for this by the 25th day before election day at the latest.

(2) Candidates for the People's Chamber elections cannot be members of an electoral committee.

(3) The electoral committee elects in a secret ballot the chairman, his deputy, and the secretary from among its members.

Section 19

If necessary, the electoral committee sends members for gathering votes in institutions of the health and social sector and other institutions, including prisons and institutions for detention pending trial.

If possible, they can also visit individual citizens upon request.

Section 20

The electoral commissions and committees discuss and decide matters at public sessions. Decisions are taken by majority of votes. If the number of yes and no votes is equal, the vote of the chairman—if he is absent that of a deputy—is the decisive one.

IV. Electoral Register

Section 21

(1) Only those persons who are listed in the electoral register of his voting district or has been issued a ballot paper can vote.

(2) For every voting district the responsible council of the city, city district, or village draws up an electoral register 21 days before election day at the latest.

Section 22

(1) The electoral registers are to be publicly presented for general inspection from day 21 to day seven before election day. The place and time of publication, as well as the right to appeal against the electoral register, are to be published in the locally customary way by the responsible council.

(2) Every person eligible to vote is to be informed in writing by the responsible council of the city, the city district, or the town about his being registered in the electoral register until 10 days before the elections.

(3) The citizen has the right to request the corresponding council to correct wrong information in the electoral registry or to supplement this information.

The council has to examine the information and to make necessary corrections and supplementations.

(4) If a person is to be crossed off from the electoral register, the citizen in question has to be informed of this immediately. He has to be given the opportunity to make a statement on this.

(5) The citizen has the right to request the district court responsible for his place of residence to cancel the decision of the responsible local council in line with subsections 3 and 4.

(6) The district court finally decides on the appeal within three days, at the latest until one day, before the elections. If the appeal is justified, the court orders a correction of the electoral register.

The proceedings are subject to the regulations of the law on the jurisdiction and proceedings of the courts for the examination of administrative decisions. There are no litigation costs to be paid.

Section 23

The electoral register is to be closed on the second day before the elections at 1600.

The responsible council informs the electoral commission of the electoral district about the number of citizens eligible to vote.

Section 24

(1) A citizen who is eligible to vote and registered in the electoral register but is unable to vote in his voting district on election day or has not been included into the electoral registry for a reason not acceptable to him, receives a ballot paper from the responsible council upon request. The issuing of ballot papers is to be noted in the electoral register or to be added to it in an annex after it has been closed.

(2) Persons who have been issued ballot papers may vote in any voting district of their electoral district.

V. Voting Slips and Polling Place

Section 25

(1) The voting slips are produced officially.

(2) The respective electoral commission is responsible for the production and timely handing over of the voting slips to the electoral committees.

(3) The official voting slip of the electoral district has to provide lines of equal size for every proposal. These lines contain the number of the list, the name of the party or the political associations, its acronym if there is any, the names of the first three candidates, and a circle where the voter casts his vote.

Section 26

(1) The polling places determined by the electoral commissions of the electoral districts are to be furnished by the local councils. The polling places are announced at the same time as is the division into voting districts.

(2) In the polling place, the booths are to be placed in such a way that the voter is able to prepare his voting slip without being observed.

(3) The ballot boxes are to be constructed in such a way that the secrecy of a person's personal voting decision is reliably ensured.

VI. Ballot

Section 27

The People's Chamber elections take place between 0700 and 1800. The ballot is a public ballot.

Section 28

(1) The ballot is supervised by the electoral committee.

(2) Before the beginning of the ballot, the chairman of the electoral committee confirms its members with a handshake.

(3) The electoral committee convinces itself in the presence of voters of the orderly condition of the ballot boxes. Each ballot box has to be sealed. The seal may be broken only after the end of the elections in order to count the votes.

(4) The chairman of the electoral committee and his secretary must not be absent from the polling place at the same time. If the chairman is absent, his deputy exercises his tasks.

(5) The electoral committee implements measures to maintain order in the polling place. These measures are binding for everyone.

Persons who disturb the ballot can be expelled from the polling place by the electoral committee.

Section 29

(1) The person eligible to vote receives the voting slip after he has identified himself by presenting a personal document.

(2) People who have ballot papers receive the voting slip after having identified themselves with a personal document and after having handed in the ballot paper.

(3) The ballot papers are added to the electoral register.

(4) Only the official voting slip distributed by the electoral committee authorizes a person to vote.

Section 30

(1) The person eligible to vote has to prepare his voting slip in a booth. The use of the booth is obligatory.

(2) The simultaneous presence of several voters in one booth is prohibited.

(3) Persons eligible to vote who are unable to prepare the voting slip themselves have the right to be helped by a person of their confidence.

Section 31

(1) The voter casts his vote in a valid way by clearly marking the list he votes for with a cross or in another way on the voting slip. The vote is cast by putting the marked voting slip into the ballot box.

(2) After the opening time of the polling places is over, only those voters who are already in the polling place are to be permitted to vote. Afterward, the chairman of the electoral committee declares the voting concluded.

Section 32

(1) Any support for a specific party, political association, or a candidate by words, sound, pictures, or in writing is prohibited in and in front of the polling place.

(2) Polls of voters and the publication of the results of these polls are permissible up to five days before the elections.

(3) Results of polls of voters after voting about their decision may be published only after the polling places have been closed.

VII. Determining the Election Result

Section 33

(1) After the ballot is concluded, the votes are publicly counted by the electoral committee in the polling place.

(2) The official voting slip forms, which have not been handed out, are to be counted and to be put into a sealed envelope. Subsequently, the voting slips are taken out of the ballot box.

(3) The electoral committee publicly announces the number of persons eligible to vote and determines

1. the number of votes cast;

2. the number of valid and invalid votes;

3. the number of valid votes cast for the individual election proposals.

Section 34

(1) The electoral committee decides on the validity of the votes cast.

(2) The voting slip is invalid

1. if another voting slip than the official one was used to cast the vote;

2. if the will of the voter cannot be clearly seen;

3. if more than one election proposal was marked by a cross or in any other way;

4. if it contains additions, deletions, or reservations;

5. if it is torn.

Section 35

(1) The electoral committee has to make a public written report on the elections about the voting and the results of the count.

(2) The election report is to be signed by the chairman of the electoral committee, the secretary, and at least three other members.

Section 36

(1) On the basis of the election reports sent by the electoral committees, the electoral commission of the electoral district checks the orderly holding of the elections. It summarizes the results of the voting from the voting districts and determines on this basis the following:

1. the turnout;
2. the number of valid and invalid votes;
3. the number of votes cast for the individual election proposals;
4. who has been elected as deputy.

(2) If the turnout is more than 50 percent, each election proposal receives seats in line with its proportion of votes in the order of the list submitted. For this the Hare/Niemeyer procedure is applied.

(3) The electoral commission prepares an election protocol. It is to be signed by the chairman and at least half of the members of the electoral commission.

(4) The elected deputies are to be informed in writing about their election by the electoral commission of the electoral district at least seven days after the election.

(5) If the deputy rejects the election, he has to state this in writing to the electoral commission of the electoral district within seven days after his being informed.

Section 37

(1) If the turnout in the electoral district is below 50 percent, the elections are repeated within 14 days.

(2) Repeat elections take place in line with the same regulations, election proposals, and electoral registers as the main elections.

(3) The validity of repeat elections does not depend on the turnout and the election result.

Section 38

(1) The orderly ballot and the overall result of the elections are determined by the GDR Electoral Commission.

(2) The GDR Electoral Commission officially announces the final results of the elections.

Section 39

If the election is rejected, if a deputy dies, or resigns from the People's Chamber for other reasons, the seat is filled within the period cited in section 36 (5) in the order of the candidates on the election proposal of that party or political group for whom the person in question ran. If the respective election proposal has been exhausted, the seat remains vacant.

Section 40

(1) Parties, political associations, and direct candidates who participated in the elections may appeal the validity of the election results in electoral districts of the validity of the overall result within 20 days after the announcement of the final overall result of the People's Chamber elections.

(2) The appeal is to be made in writing to the GDR Electoral Commission, stating the reasons and evidence.

(3) The GDR Electoral Commission discusses and decides within 10 days in public sessions about the appeals that contest the validity of the election results.

(4) The decision is put down in writing and has to be justified. It is final.

(5) If the appeal is granted, the GDR Electoral Commission either has to correct the election result or to order a repetition of the elections.

(6) The repeat elections must be held within 21 days after the decision. The date for the repeat elections is set by the GDR Electoral Commission.

(7) The repeat elections takes place on the basis of the same election proposals and electoral registers as the main elections if the decision does not state otherwise.

Section 41

(1) The following election documents are to be kept locked away until the end of the legislative period: protocols of the GDR Electoral Commission, as well as of the electoral commissions of the electoral districts, and reports by the electoral committees, as well as the protocols of destruction in line with subsection 2.

(2) Voting slips, ballot papers, and electoral registers are to be destroyed under the supervision of the electoral commission of the electoral districts between the 60th and 80th day after the elections. A protocol is to be made on this and to be sent to the GDR Electoral Commission.

VIII. Beginning and End of Rights and Duties of Deputies

Section 42

(1) The rights and duties of the deputies start with their election and end on the day of the People's Chamber elections for the new legislative period.

If the People's Chamber is dissolved, the rights and duties of its deputies end on this day.

(2) During the legislative period, the mandate of a deputy ends by death, by losing his eligibility for election, if he changes the party or political association, if his mandate is canceled, or if he is recalled. If the deputy dies or loses his eligibility for election, the People's Chamber notes the expiration of the mandate.

(3) A deputy who was elected via the list of a party or political association loses his mandate as a deputy if he changes the party or political association during the legislative period. The People's Chamber notes the loss of the mandate.

(4) Deputies have the right to request the cancellation of their mandate during the legislative period.

(5) The parties and political associations have the right to request the recall of a deputy nominated by them if this deputy has grossly violated his duties as a deputy. The recall of a deputy can also be requested by voters of the respective electoral district. Requests for recall by the voters need the support by at least 5,000 statements, signed personally and by hand by citizens who are eligible to vote and live in the respective electoral district.

(6) Decisions about applications in line with subsections 4 and 5 are made by the Peoples' Chamber. A recall requires the approval of at least two-thirds of the deputies present.

Section 43

(1) If a deputy leaves who was elected via the list of a party or political association, the next on the election proposal of the respective party or political association succeeds him. If the respective election proposal is exhausted, the seat remains vacant.

IX. Concluding Regulations

Section 44

Payment of the election expenditures are made on the basis of the election regulations, the law on parties, the law on associations, as well as other legal stipulations.

Section 45

(1) This law comes into force when it is proclaimed.

(2) At the same time, the following are revoked: Law on the Elections to the GDR People's Chamber—Election Law—of 24 June 1976 (Legal Gazette I 1976, No. 22, p 301) in the edition of the Law on Amending the Election Law of 28 June 1979 (Legal Gazette I 1979, No. 17, p 139), and the Law of 3 March 1989 on Supplementing the Election Law (Legal Gazette 1989, No. 7, p 109).

(3) In correspondence with the preceding election law, an election regulation has to be passed by the People's Chamber in the form of a resolution by the time the GDR Electoral Commission is formed at the latest.

Commentary on Draft Election Law

AU0202193990 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 31 Jan 90 p 1

[Dietrich Schulz commentary: "Interjection"]

[Text] The draft law on the People's Chamber elections has been put on the table. Another adjective—"direct"—has been added to the adjectives free, general, equal, and secret. Free elections mean that every person eligible to vote can freely participate in the preparations for the elections and can cast his vote in line with his free decision. General elections mean that the citizens who are eligible to vote all have the same right to vote and to be elected. Equal elections mean that everyone has equal rights and duties in preparing and holding the elections, Every vote is worth the same. Our deputies—also the ones from Berlin—are elected directly.

In deference to Allied agreements on the status, the legislator has so far avoided including the adjective "direct" in the Constitution or in an election law. Is this a signal for the future election of Bundestag deputies from Berlin (West)? And there is at least one other question: Should not all persons listed in section 3 of the draft law as not eligible to vote have the right to request examinations by independent judges and doctors? There are reports on cases of people who were sentenced wrongfully and examples of questionable occurrences in psychiatric clinics.

Failings in Economic, Social Development Noted

AU0502124790 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 24 Jan 90 p 3

[ADN/BZ report: "Planned Income Has Not Been Reached by Far"]

[Text] According to preliminary statistical calculations by the Central Statistical Office, in 1989 a national income amounting to M273.5 billion in comparable prices of 1985 was produced. Compared with 1988 the increase amounted to 2 percent, that is, M5.5 billion. The law on the national economic plan envisioned an increase by 4 percent; thus M5.3 billion were missing. The planned contribution to growth was not fulfilled by any of the main sectors of the national economy.

The national labor productivity, calculated as national income produced per working person in the producing sector, rose by 2.8 percent. Production input per unit of national income declined by 0.1 percent. The target of the national economic plan was 1.2 percent. The main reason for the underfulfillment was the insufficient efficiency of the economical use of material in science and technology.

I. Industry

The enterprises in the sector of the industrial ministries increased production by 2.5 percent (2.9 percent in terms of work days). The 1989 law provided for an increase by 4.2 percent. Thus, production losses amounted to M5.9 billion.

In December, the average number of workers and employees in industry was 95,000 fewer, that is 3.3

percent, than in December 1988. Some 73,000 foreign workers were employed in industry.

Labor productivity rose by 3.7 percent in terms of workdays. The efficiency targets of the law, which were reflected in cost reductions and profits, were not achieved in 1989, according to preliminary data. Total prime cost per M100 of goods production was reduced by 0.1 percent; the law envisioned 1.3 percent. The same goes for material costs per M100 of goods production, which were reduced by 0.7 percent while the rate of reduction had been set at 1.5 percent. About one-third of all combines in industry exceeded the planned total prime costs per M100 of goods production. About M3.5 billion, that is, 7 percent, were lacking to achieve the planned target of net profit. Therefore, the planned payments to the state budget were not achieved.

At the end of the year, the enterprises in industry had total delivery backlogs in respect of the concluded contracts amounting to M3.6 billion. The backlogs were particularly concentrated on enterprises of machine building and light industry. As far as finished products for the population were concerned, they amounted to almost M500 million.

II. Construction Sector

In 1989, building production stagnated compared with the previous year. The law on the national economic plan envisioned an increase by 2.1 percent. In total, there were plan backlogs amounting to M644 million, which mainly concerned projects of industrial construction and comprehensive housing construction.

The average number of workers and employees in the construction sector was 24,000 workers and employees lower in December 1989 than during the same month the year before. In 1989 5,700 foreign workers were employed in the construction sector.

In housing construction, 83,361 new apartments, 6,612 renovated apartments, and 2,374 restructured and expanded apartments were completed. The plan for new housing construction was not fulfilled in any area. Overall, underfulfillment amounted to 12,872 apartments, which was mainly concentrated in the capital city of Berlin, as well as in the areas of Karl-Marx-Stadt, Dresden, Halle, and Leipzig. Within the framework of new housing construction, 11,234 privately owned houses and 2,843 apartments in houses for senior citizens were built. A total of 105,582 apartments, that is, 1,157 more than planned, were modernized.

Housing stock was expanded to more than 7 million apartments. Thus, 429 apartments per 1,000 inhabitants are available. Average floor space per inhabitant amounts to more than 27 square meters. At the end of September 1989 80 out of 100 apartments had a bath or shower and 73 out of 100 apartments had an interior toilet.

By mid-1989, three-quarters of a million applications for apartments had been made to the local councils. For social reasons the applications of about 90,000 families who do not yet have their own apartments are particularly urgent.

The district-administered construction sector, which carries out about 90 percent of all building repairs on apartment houses, did not achieve the planned targets for maintaining the housing stock in half of all districts.

III. Agriculture, Forestry, Foodstuffs Industry

In crop production, the planned tasks were not completely fulfilled in 1989, mainly because of the prolonged drought in the spring and summer. Total yield of crop production per hectare of arable land amounted to 46.8 decitonnes—calculated in grain equivalent units—that is, 3.2 decitonnes less than envisioned by the law.

Backlogs compared with the national economic plan were incurred for sugar beet—81,000 tonnes; vegetables—120,000 tonnes; and edible leguminous crops—2,400 tonnes.

The planned state procurement of animal products was fulfilled; for slaughter animals, state procurement was 22,500 tonnes higher than the year before, for milk, 245,000 tonnes, and for eggs, 179 million units.

In the socialist agricultural enterprises, 819,700 people were permanently employed. These are 5,500 persons fewer than during the year before. More than half of the used tractors and almost two-thirds of the trucks are more than 14 years old.

In 1989, the agricultural machinery building enterprises provided fewer spare parts than planned to the agricultural enterprises. The backlogs are mainly concentrated in spare parts for tractors, industrial vehicles, and loaders.

IV. Transportation, Posts, and Telecommunications

The amount of goods transported by railroads, inland navigation, road transportation, maritime navigation, and aircraft amounted to a total of 515.4 million tonnes in 1989. This is 9.7 million tonnes less than during the year before.

Railroads hauled 339.2 million tonnes of goods; 10 million tonnes, that is, 2.9 percent, less than in 1988.

The still inadequate technical state of the rail network and related construction work to reestablish operations and traffic safety hindered passenger and freight traffic.

The amount of goods transported by means of inland navigation was 19.3 million tonnes, thus 0.3 million tonnes more than in 1988.

Some 142.8 million tonnes of goods was hauled by public road transportation. This was 0.2 percent less than in 1988. The condition of roads deteriorated, particularly because of insufficient maintenance work.

With an amount of goods transported of 14 million tonnes, maritime navigation achieved the highest annual performance so far.

As a result of 64,000 new main telephone hookups in the posts and telecommunications sector, the total number of main telephone hookups rose to about 1,825,000, including 1,122,000 hookups in apartments. The number of unfulfilled applications for a telephone hookup rose to 1.2 million, including 1.1 million applications for apartments. By the end of 1989 16 out of 100 apartments had a telephone.

V. Foreign Trade

In trade with the CEMA countries, exports stagnated compared with the previous year. In particular because of the reduction of CEMA contractual prices for crude oil and natural gas, imports declined by 3.2 percent. This leads to an export surplus of 0.8 billion transfer rubles. This surplus was used mainly to pay for services, in particular for transit fees and tourism. In trade with the USSR, exports remained at the same level as the previous year.

Exports to the capitalist industrial countries and developing countries rose by 8.5 percent in 1989 compared with 1988, while imports simultaneously rose by 6.6 percent. With the developing countries there was an export surplus of $0.2 billion, with the capitalist industrial countries an import surplus of $1 billion.

VI. Investments

In 1989, a total of M86 billion at effective prices was invested in the GDR national economy, which is about M1 billion less than the previous year. It was not possible to reduce the pent-up demand or to reduce the large stock of obsolete production equipment. In industry, the degree of wear of equipment amounted to an average of 54 percent, in the construction sector even up to 70 percent.

VII. Development of Standard of Living

The personal disposable income of the population rose by 3 percent to M167.5 billion. Of this, income from work rose by 3.6 percent and that from social funds by 2.2 percent.

Savings accounts and cash money of the population amounted to M177 billion by the end of the year. This is an increase by 5.6 percent, that is, M9.3 billion, compared with 1988.

Retail trade turnover rose by 3.5 percent, that is M4.4 billion, at effective prices.

According to preliminary statistical data, average prices for goods and services rose—partly because of changes in their ranges—by about 2 percent in 1989 compared with 1988. Particularly affected were outerwear, shoes for women and men, and linen, as well as washing machines.

With the 165,879 passenger cars that were provided for the population in 1989 the number of licensed private passenger cars rose by 4 percent to 3.7 million. It is largely impossible to meet the demand. Of the 167 industrial goods items of the central supply plan there were delivery backlogs amounting to M624 million concerning 120 items. During the fourth quarter of 1989, an increase in backlogs to three times the amount of 30 September could be registered. There were also delivery backlogs for outerwear for men (373,000 units); outerwear for women (761,000 units); outerwear for children (613,000 units); furniture and upholstered goods (M53.7 million); color television sets (4,200 units); toys (M3.7 million); and light fixtures (130,000 units).

Cooperative and private crafts increased their performance by 5.5 percent. In 1989, more than 6,000 business licenses were granted. The number of private crafts enterprises rose to about 83,000 by the end of 1989.

By the end of 1989 25 doctors per 10,000 inhabitants and eight dentists per 10,000 inhabitants were working in the health and social sector.

The gaps left as a result of about 1,800 doctors and dentists, as well as 5,000 nurses and other medical workers, leaving the GDR could not be filled even through increased use of medical personnel and help from other sectors of the national economy. Serious problems developed in providing pharmaceuticals, expendable medical material, and technical medical equipment.

According to preliminary data, in 1989 the number of GDR inhabitants declined to 16.4 million, mainly as a result of emigration. In 1989 198,512 children were born—this is the lowest number since 1976. A total of 205,402 persons died. In 1989 131,000 marriages were concluded, 6,000 less than during the previous year; the number of divorces remained nearly steady at 50,000.

Women's Union To Participate in Elections

LD2101053190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2206 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Some 200 spokeswomen of women's groups in the GDR decided at the second meeting of the GDR Coordination Council on 20 January to take part in the elections as the Independent Women's Union [UF]. They register a strong protest against the parties' plan to exclude democratic citizens' movements from the election.

The first demand with which the UF wants to present itself to the electorate as a political representative body is the securing of the right for all women to an economically independent existence. This includes, among other things, the raising of women's wages and salaries, of pensions and maintenance, a gradual increase in child benefits in line with the actual inflation rate, and rent fixing for the socially disadvantaged. The UF demands of the government the prior public discussion of all planned changes in the system of wages, prices, and subsidies and calls for the strict observance of the labor law. The UF objects to the exclusion of its representatives at various roundtables in the areas and local communities.

U.S. Disarmament Proposal Called 'Overdue'

AU0502152590 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 1 Feb 90 p 2

[Franz Knipping editorial: "An Overdue Reaction"]

[Text] The offer made by U.S. President Bush on more far-reaching troop reductions in Europe where NATO and the Warsaw Pact continue to face each other highly armed, does not come as a surprise. It is much rather an overdue reaction to the political changes that have been taking place in all Warsaw Pact states without any exception. These changes are accompanied by considerable force reductions. Negotiations are being held on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the CSSR, Hungary, and Poland. In addition, the Soviet Union suggested that all of its troops and those of the United States should be totally withdrawn from Europe by the end of the nineties.

As a result of all this, the feeling of being threatened by the respective other side has disappeared in East and West. The wish has grown on either side to get rid of excessive arms burdens; this should be particularly easy in the case of conventional troops and weapons. Because the NATO camp failed to take disarmament steps, it was coming under pressure to move. A political impetus was necessary to make the Vienna talks on force reductions between the Atlantic and the Urals result in a first agreement before the end of 1990. Bush's proposal could be such an impetus.

At the same time, the U.S. President's message has also domestic policy causes. In Congress, those voices are becoming increasingly audible that say that the United States should reduce its forces and should considerably reduce its presence of 320,000 men in Europe. In view of its state debt of $2 trillion, its budget deficit of $123 billion in the current fiscal year, and in view of gloomy economic forecasts, representatives advocate more thrift, particularly in the military area. Ranking first is the desire for a strategy and expenditures that are adjusted to the changed political landscape in Central and Eastern Europe.

Bush has taken account of such moods by a dual admission—the admission that the military threat by the Soviet Union in Europe has been decreasing, and the admission that fewer U.S. troops are required there than has been claimed until recently. However, those who had hoped for the U.S. readiness to carry out disarmament in other areas as well are disappointed. The modernization of the U.S. strategic offensive weapons and the SDI space weapons program are being continued undiminished. Bush's message left absolutely no doubt about that.

Pentagon Budget Cut Proposal Assessed

AU0602121090 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 31 Jan 90 p 5

[Klaus Wilczynski commentary: "Contradictory Bush on Arms Reduction"]

[Text] President Bush will present the Congress his proposals on the coming military budget, the nightmare of the U.S. taxpayer. After lengthy discussion of increases and cuts, he wants to reduce arms spending by a total of 2 percent in real terms.

In relation to the Pentagon's current annual spending of $305 billion, 2 percent—or $6.1 billion—is not exactly a lot. Nevertheless, they make a difference in the expected $140 billion deficit in the 1989/90 state budget. By the end of 1989, the accumulated debts of the government amounted to $2.8 trillion. This is a threat to stability. The arms budget is the main reason for this mountain of debts.

However, what is more important are the global factors. In connection with the rapid changes in the socialist countries, even the military experts can no longer seriously come up with the danger from the East. Thus one should consider Bush's proposal as an offer. The financial means are to be recovered through troop reductions. It was stated that one was also considering reducing the number of U.S. soldiers in the FRG. Some 15,000 men are to be withdrawn anyway in connection with the INF Treaty. Within NATO there have been fierce and contradictory discussions on reducing foreign armed forces in the FRG. This reduction would promote the Vienna talks on conventional disarmament.

This holds equally true for the closing of the two major U.S. bases in Greece, which has been proposed, even if today they are only of little military value and their disbandment, which has been demanded by the Greeks for a long time, would bring this country closer to NATO again.

The catch of the Bush proposal is that there are no planned cuts for the two most dangerous and expensive armament projects, namely SDI and the Stealth bomber. These are a real threat and stimulate the arms race. How is Bush going to make this compatible with the improvement in East-West relations, which even he mentioned? Heated arguments are expected in Congress.

USSR's Gremitskikh on Reunification

LD0202163190 Hamburg DPA in German 1512 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—The Soviet Union is in favor of the two German states leaving the relevant military blocs, the Warsaw Pact and NATO. "We are prepared to disband the blocs today," the deputy spokesman for the

Soviet Foreign Ministry, Yuriy Gremitskikh, told correspondents in East Berlin. The Soviet Union is in favor of disbanding the alliances or transforming them into political alliances.

It is unrealistic and unacceptable to start from the premise that a united Germany could remain either in NATO or the Warsaw Pact. The solution has to be found between the two, he stated. Gremitskikh pointed out that GDR Prime Minister Hans Modrow (SED-PDS) [Socialist Unity Party of Germany-Party for Democratic Socialism], who presented a plan for German unity yesterday, had spoken of the military neutrality of a united Germany and not just of neutrality. He considered leaving the blocs "a good solution."

The plan for German unity is currently being studied carefully. None of the four victorious powers of the second world war had spoken the final word. The statements to date have been overhasty reactions, "simply insufficient and incomplete," he remarked critically. Modrow's concept should be discussed "more thoroughly." The plan had "most certainly" been agreed on in its rough outline by Modrow with Soviet state and party leader Mikhail Gorbachev during his visit to Moscow a few days ago, Gremitskikh said.

German unity is only possible within the framework of the process of European unity and with the cooperation of the four victorious powers. There must be negotiations on this at various forums and eventually at the conclusion of the Vienna disarmament talks. He thought the four powers would be interested in "discussing the problem." However, Modrow's concept is only 24 hours old. The four powers would "be co-actors" on the German question. They are not "bit players." Germany's neighbors should not be passed over.

Gremitskikh had also talked with representatives of opposition groups such as New Forum and the SPD [Social Democratic Party]. During this, he had discovered that they are prepared to be close friends of the Soviet Union even after the elections. "We will always remain a loyal friend of the GDR," the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Soviet Western Group Military Exercises Begin

LD0502091290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0850 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The troop exercise by the Western Group of the USSR Armed Forces announced for the Haldensleben, Lindau, Dobritz, Brandenburg, Wesenberg, Sewekow and Jaevenitz regions (GDR Areas Magdeburg, Potsdam and Neubrandenburg) began today with the troops being relocated to the exercise region. It is being headed by a deputy army commander of the Western Group.

The actions, which continue until 11 February, are attended by up to 15,900 Army members. The National People's Army of the GDR is represented with 400 participants.

Bundesbank President Opens Talks on Currency

LD0602102690 Hamburg DPA in German 0949 GMT 6 Feb 90

[Text] East Berlin (DPA/VWD)—Bundesbank President Karl Otto Poehl began talks with GDR State Bank and government representatives in East Berlin on Tuesday. The meetings are in connection with the discussion about a German-German currency union. Topics to be discussed include the gradual introduction of the Deutschemark in the GDR and the convertibility of the GDR mark.

This morning, Poehl met with GDR State Bank President Horst Kaminsky. Officially it was said that this meeting had been arranged a long time ago. The State Bank president's last visit to the Bundesbank was last summer, before the spectacular events in the GDR.

Top High representatives of the State Bank have signalled recently that should the Deutschemark be introduced directly as the official currency, then currency sovereignty might possibly be assigned to the Deutsche Bundesbank in Frankfurt. A talk between Poehl and Economics Minister Christa Luft is on the agenda for this afternoon. Yesterday she proposed a referendum on introducing the Deutschemark in the GDR.

Intelligence Chief Grants Interview

LD0602121190 Budapest MTI in English 1130 GMT 6 Feb 90

[Text] Budapest, February 6 (MTI)—Tuesday's MAGYAR HIRLAP carries an interview with Colonel Istvan Dercze, chief of the Hungarian Intelligence Service since last December and the first holder of the post to go public.

Col. Dercze pointed out that "The changes in Hungarian society make it imperative to dispel the mist around us. To us, this would be particularly important, as our position is unclear even within the Ministry of the Interior."

The colonel said that the new, independent organization they are now working on would require at least 1,000 million forints a year to operate.

Istvan Dercze said that a great deal of information which used to be considered classified has since been shown to exclusively serve one-party rule.

Under the party-state system, the service's superior was obviously the general secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, not the minister of the interior. They received the orders, and the information was 'distributed' by the interior minister.

The colonel said the service was employing KGB consultants by the mid-1960s. After the organization became stronger and more independent, the remaining KGB officers acted as coordinators right up until their recall at Hungary's initiative last summer.

Nevertheless, liaison officers are still active in the Hungarian Soviet colony, promoting cooperation between the two organizations.

According to Col. Dercze, collaboration with the KGB only goes as far as is justified by Hungary's interests, and the same goes for cooperation with other intelligence organizations. In future, members of staff will be trained not in Moscow, but right here in Hungary, according to local requirements.

Istvan Dercze stressed that the law-governed activity of organizations concerned with national security should be permanently controlled by parliament.

HSP Concerned Over Illegal Campaign Methods

LD0502233690 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] [Announcer] The parties are fighting with increasingly rough and, unfortunately, I can say increasingly illegal methods to achieve electoral victory. Our political morality is slipping to the lowest level. It is not surprising, therefore, that the spokesman for the Hungarian Socialist Party [HSP] first voiced his concern at his news conference. Our reporter is Eva Sos.

[Sos] The HSP is concerned about the cleanliness of the elections, since symptoms of political hysteria have recently been proliferating, Viktor Polgar, a spokesman for the HSP, said. One sign of this, according to the spokesman, was the number of break-ins into HSP offices—namely the break-in at Koebanya and those preceding: five altogether since December. Naturally, the break-in at Szolnok over the weekend was discussed in greatest detail. According to Imre Ivancsik, leader of the HSP Szolnok office, there are a number of incomprehensible contradictions and plenty of unclarified points in the case. One of them, for example, is that neither on the documents nor in the office were any fingerprints found. The two men who carried out the break-in stated at the police station that immediately after committing the act, they got in touch with one of the national offices of the Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ]. The identity of this person must, therefore, be clarified, Imre Ivancsik said. The HSP, according to the spokesman, values the apology issued by the SZDSZ as an honorable gesture, but he said they cannot be satisfied with this since the much publicized case occurred for political reasons. This is important because even after three days, the HSP did not receive a guarantee that no photocopies were made of the stolen documents and that the SZDSZ is making no use of them. Viktor Polgar stated that in the judgment of the HSP, there is a strong connection between the mentioned break-ins, the discrediting campaign against government and council organizations, and the actions which are introducing uncertainties in the work of the state security organizations and the police. In his view, the break-in at the HSP's Szolnok office is one of those extremist actions committed by the SZDSZ which, especially during the time of the elections, should be avoided.

[Announcer] As you heard, the HSP is not satisfied with the SZDSZ apology, but is asking for guarantees that the actions, much condemned by public opinion as well, will not be repeated.

HSP Burgled by AFD Members

LD0402190890 Budapest MTI in English 1736 GMT 4 Feb 90

[Text] Budapest, February 4 (MTI)—The offices of the Hungarian Socialist Party's Szolnok (NE Hungary) have been broken into on Friday night. Membership lists, financial documents of 1989 and a number of casettes containing recordings of party functions were taken by the burglars, who left a sticker of the Alliance of Free Democrats (AFD) behind.

The executive body of the AFD's Szolnok branch met on Saturday night to assess the situation. On Sunday morning they come into possession of information to suggest that the burglary was committed by two Szolnok members of the AFD. It was proposed to the two young men, Csaba Gyarmati and Attila Patvaros, residents of Szolnok, to report at the police station and return the stolen documents.

In a communique issued by the Szolnok organisation of AFD it is reported that the two persons have been expulsed from the membership and the party distances itself from their deed. The AFD also apologised from the HSP.

Vitanyi on Possible Government Crisis

AU2501204590 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 22 Jan 90 p 5

[Interview with Hungarian Socialist Party Presidium member Ivan Vitanyi by "H.Z."; date and place not given: "Vitanyi's Private Opinion: If Attacks Continue, the Socialist Ministers Will Leave Government"]

[Text] VASARNAPI HIREK [SUNDAY'S NEWS] on 21 January published a statement by Ivan Vitanyi, a statement that has stirred a great sensation. His words project the image of a government crisis in Hungary, only two months before the long-awaited first free elections in 42 years. We asked Ivan Vitanyi to detail his position.

[Vitanyi] At the beginning of December 1989, the government summoned the major 17 parties and political organizations, and the representatives of the executive power openly presented the country's economic situation and asked the negotiating partners to reduce their attacks on the government, because this body alone has the opportunity to save Hungary from bankruptcy. The negotiations dealt with the IMF proposals connected with Hungary and with the fact that these proposals should be accepted in the interest of our future and, last but not least, to be able to hold free elections. These proposals should be accepted even if they represent financial disadvantages for the population. During these negotiations, the government also announced the planned price increases. Although no comprehensive statement has been issued about these negotiations, on the basis of the talks the Hungarian Socialist Party [HSP] came to the conclusion that the ability to govern the country was not threatened. However, when the government carried out the necessary price increases, the negotiating partners who had showed understanding 40 days before, directed a concentrated fire against the government, and recently they even claimed that there was practically a government crisis in Hungary. I think the attacks on the Interior Ministry are also part of the series of attacks on the government. Although the justification of attacks on the Interior Ministry should not be questioned, the political hysteria surrounding all this puts on trial not only the domestic security services, but also the entire government.

[Question] To what extent do all these attacks affect the HSP?

[Vitanyi] The accusations addressed to the Council of Ministers also contain accusations directed against the HSP, by saying that this government does not belong to the nation but to the HSP, a party that is forced to accept certain elements inherited from the policy of its predecessor, the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party. These attacks have created an impossible party political situation! The current situation very much resembles the salami- tactics used by Rakosi: Let us attack certain members of the government, and this will lead to a situation in which the entire government will have to resign. Those who in December 1989 recognized the need for the measures they are now criticizing probably do not take into consideration the fact that a government crisis prior to the elections and in our current economic situation would be a real catastrophe. We have initiated further negotiations with the opposition parties, but if these negotiations do not bring results, we will also consider the possibility of withdrawing the HSP ministers from the government.

[Question] Is this your private opinion or have you discussed this with others too?

[Vitanyi] This is my idea, but some other members of the HSP Presidium also agree with me.

MSZMP Chairman Queried on Developments

LD0502220290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1900 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Interview with Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Chairman Gyula Thurmer by unidentified studio announcer; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] One of the newspapers has described Gyula Thurmer, Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] chairman, as the Moscow card. Not long after that, the news got around that he will shortly be going to the Soviet Union on an official invitation. Is this still the case?

[Thurmer] I envy the paper DATUM for having such good information. I think that the Soviet leadership also was surprised by my having been elected MSZMP chairman. This was born of the will of the membership. I don't think anyone else had anything to do with it. As for the invitation, it reveals the fact that the CPSU leadership shows interest in a modern party offering left-wing alternatives.

[Announcer] You say CPSU leadership. However, if this very day the Central Committee is dismissed, then with whom will you hold discussions?

[Thurmer] They might dismiss the Soviet party leadership; they might put new people at the head of the party, but I am convinced that the Soviet party will remain even then. In other words, it will have a leadership. My invitation comes from the CPSU Central Committee and I think that this will remain valid also in the future.

[Announcer] But why are you going to Moscow? So that the two countries may continue to be connected by strong threads? Or perhaps to discuss that, if perchance there were a need for military help here, then this should be at our disposal?

[Thurmer] There are many reasons why I would like to visit Moscow. On the one hand, very interesting processes are under way in the Soviet Union. I would like to get to know them more closely. On the other hand, I think that our MSZMP, which is in renewal, could perhaps give some help. It could express its opinion about the renewal of the workers' movement. And this could signify a certain help to the Soviet party as well. On the other hand, there are a few issues which have to be rethought. I believe it is also the MSZMP's duty to take part in the modernization of Hungarian-Soviet relations. There is a need for a more open, more honest, more democratic relationship.

I would also like to broach with the Soviet leadership the issue of the Soviet troops stationed here. In 1988, the MSZMP leadership initiated the withdrawal of Soviet troops. I will divulge the secret that at that time it had a discussion involving two, or rather three people, and at our request Gorbachev promised: We will withdraw the Soviet troops. They confirmed this. The only reason this remained a secret at that time was because the Soviet side asked that we not make this public, in view of the Vienna talks.

[Announcer] This discussion involving three people, was it among Gorbachev, Grosz, and yourself?

[Thurmer] Yes, yes. It is this line of thought which I would like to pursue on this occasion as well and to ask the CPSU leadership to promote the position that the Soviet troops, in harmony with the European processes, should leave the territory of Hungary as soon as possible.

[Announcer] Is the MSZMP in a situation today which allows it to hold a discussion about this with the CPSU?

[Thurmer] Look, first and foremost, this is the task of the two governments, but the MSZMP represents fairly significant social forces. For this reason, I think it is our duty to raise every issue that affects Hungarian people.

[Announcer] At all occasions, it is obvious that the MSZMP will consider the Soviet Union as its potential partner from every viewpoint in the future as well.

[Thurmer] The MSZMP's foreign policy is a policy of opening up on all sides. In other words, this is not a one-sided Hungarian-Soviet relationship, but multilateral cooperation with every country of Europe. It is natural that we too must have good relations with the Soviet Union as the big power and as a neighbor.

[Announcer] You graduated in the Soviet Union. What is more, from the Institute of International Relations, which people describe, incidentally, as the high-flyers' training school. This was in the Brezhnev era, precisely in the golden age of the Brezhnev era. Of course, by then it could be seen that the Soviet system was not viable. And, if I remember correctly, later on you even said this when you were back here at home. When you got near to the fire, why didn't you intercede or why didn't you make efforts for us to begin to break away [levalni] from the Soviet Union earlier? Let us say, in the time of Andropov or at the time of Gorbachev's election?

[Thurmer] Of the Brezhnev era, I not only saw the seventies, but from 1980 to 1982, I worked at our embassy in Moscow. The failure, the faults of the mechanism of that time, could be seen in advance. And this is important because also in my work today I can make use of knowing what it is one should not do and how one should do things differently. In answer to your question, when I came closer to the fire, so to speak, I endeavored to draw attention precisely to these faults, to these errors. And whether at the Kadar-Andropov discussions, or later at the Grosz-Gorbachev talks, this was always raised. I don't think that we should break away from the Soviet Union, but there is a need for a more modern, more open, more democratic relationship.

[Announcer] The MSZMP unequivocally emphasizes the danger of a right-wing takeover of power. I think that you consider every other party, with the exception of the Hungarian Socialist Party [HSP] or the MSZMP, to be a right-wing party.

[Thurmer] The essence of the program of the bourgeois parties—to quote one of them—is to restore private ownership as a citizen's right. Our opinion, on the other hand—and this is where we decisively diverge from every other party—is that there should be a mixed-ownership economy in Hungary. In other words, we recognize private ownership, but we believe that it is a communal society which can do the most for individuals and for communities.

[Announcer] It was not like this up until now. The communal society simply carried the country into bankruptcy.

[Thurmer] We rid society to a significant extent from the antidemocratic, bureaucratic, inhumane features. If we continue this, then communal property can be made to function well in the future. We would like this to be the main plank. Naturally, private ownership should also be there alongside it.

[Announcer] What I don't understand is that bourgeois democracy is blooming, viable. Socialism, not only in our country but also in the other countries having this form of social system, has gone bankrupt. Why then should one stick to it and why can't one (?change) and take on something that is guaranteed to be viable, as I said?

[Thurmer] Well, look, one could argue about the question of whether bourgeois democracy is blooming everywhere. The bourgeois democracy that is beginning to evolve in Hungary is not the kind that exists in Western Europe. A tense political atmosphere, the persecution of the left-wing communist forces, anti-Semitism, Gypsy-persecution, racial discrimination—all these things, I think, are not the concomitants of democracy. Instead of a rightwing turnabout, a capitalist restoration, there should be a democratic government of the people.

[Announcer] As the MSZMP's number one, you have said on more than one occasion that you see a partner and potential ally in the HSP. Does the MSZMP have the same opinion?

[Thurmer] I trust that in a given phase of the elections the two parties may cooperate. After the elections, when power relations are better clarified, I am convinced that relations between the two parties will be closer.

[Announcer] At all events, many people say that the MSZMP, which was the richest party in this country, is now running in these elections as the poorest party. I don't know if it was a joke or the truth that at your congress, allegedly, the delegates only got sausage to eat.

[Thurmer] It is a fact that our material situation is bad. Despite this, we see that we have strength, faith. We stood up at the congress with the conviction that we are not grand. We don't have enough money either, in the words of the old workers' movement march, but we have faith, conviction, a program, a new leadership.

[Announcer] You are a theoretical expert with outstanding qualifications. Why did you choose politics and why do you not live off your specialist knowledge?

[Thurmer] At the congress, when the delegates themselves proposed that I be elected party chairman, I could not say that I would not accept it. I spoke with Gyorgy Marosan on the telephone afterward. He said: Thurmer, you are in the situation I was once in; you don't know what you have undertaken, but out of honor you have to do it.

1 Feb Demonstration 'Hampered' TV Broadcasting

LD0402232890 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1900 GMT 4 Feb 90

[Text] [Announcer] During the evening hours on Thursday [1 February], a few hundred demonstrators, shouting extremist slogans, caused a heated situation for a few minutes in front of the television's headquarters. The demonstrators made it impossible to get in or out; they vigorously hampered a smooth transmission of programs for you. In the late evening hours, the people dispersed, but, according to a report, they will supposedly return. Is anyone protecting Hungarian Television? Laszlo Juszt has asked the competent person about this:

[Begin recording] [Juszt] I have not yet seen any threats such as those which I read about in Friday's ESTI HIRLAP—namely that the leaders of the Christian National Union call on the members of the party to throw stones at Hungarian Television.

[Unidentified speaker] Insofar as this might be a serious, resolute intent on their part, the law, the law on assembly—which states that it is not possible to assemble, to take part in a demonstration with arms or weapons—does not allow this. The law also says that it is not possible to appeal for criminal action, in connection with the law of assembly, that is with holding a gathering or a demonstration. Second, if notice is given of such a thing, the police authorities ban such a gathering.

[Juszt] And if it is held, despite this?

[Unidentified speaker] It is necessary to call on the crowd, the organizer, to leave the location, and, as a last resort, after a call has been issued, measures can be taken so that the participants are warned away, sent away, and in certain cases, the last resort is dispersal, according to the law. [end recording]

Law Passed on Leaders' Assets Disclosure

LD0202145890 Budapest MTI in English 2055 GMT 1 Feb 90

[Text] Budapest, February 1 (MTI)—Thursday's session of parliament carried the bill—with 56 percent of the votes in favour—proposing that leaders should prepare a statement on their assets, as presented by Csaba Hamori, MP, (national list).

Under the new law, all those MPs who held high public offices for two parliamentary cycles since 1980—including the president and members of the Presidential Council, Presidents of the Council of Ministers, the ministers, secretaries of state, speakers and deputy speakers of parliament, and presidents of the municipal and county councils—are liable to make a statement on their assets.

Parliament also proposes the preparation of a voluntary moral and property statement by high-ranking state officials still holding office, including national officials of party and social organs.

Subsequently, parliament decided to set up an inspection committee in charge of related hearings. Members of this body will be comprised by persons recommended by heads of the various political groups in parliament.

Independence Party Board Adopts Manifesto

LD2701200490 Budapest MTI in English 1604 GMT 27 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 27 (MTI)—The National Board of the Hungarian Independence Party held a session in Budapest on Saturday [27 January].

Party President Tibor Hornyak reported on the activity of the party to date. He announced that the Hungarian Independence Party has entered into alliance with the Independent Hungarian Democratic Party, the Imre Takacs-led wing of the Social Democratic Party, and with the Hungarian Radical Party. They are jointly preparing for the forthcoming parliamentary elections under the name of National Federation of Centre Parties.

The Hungarian Independence Party demands in a responsible manner its share in shaping the country's fate, it was heard at a press conference held in the afternoon. The leaders of the party reported they would enter candidates in 16 counties, and the overwhelming majority of the candidates were personally introduced at the session of the board.

The session approved the party's manifesto. The economic policy part of the document notes the party holds the rapid development of agriculture to be a priority goal. In this interest, it is indispensable that peasants get back their just property, the land.

Radical, October, Other Parties Meet

LD2701230890 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 27 Jan 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] This weekend is characterized by party conferences. Reports follow from Beatrix Siklosi and Peter Radics: [passage omitted]

[Radics] The alliance of historical parties was formed in December, and today, the four members of this alliance, as an alliance of center parties, asked Milos Nemeth, in an open letter, to again convene a national summit as a result of the destabilization. The Hungarian Independence Party, which is in the center alliance, again urged a convening of the national reconciliation committee. This, with the participation of all the parties, would pass judgment on all the political leaders responsible for the crisis, but not through means of penal law.

At its rally today, the Hungarian Radical party also reaffirmed its alliance with the center parties, and, as it was said at the rally, this means long-term political cooperation. [passage omitted]

The existence of the Hungarian October Party is at risk. This was the announcement with which Gyorgy Krasso opened the party's national assembly. In his view, the existing, most antidemocratic, election system strips the small parties of all chances, and they are thus compelled to form various coalitions. One such coalition, known as Christian National Unity [Kereszteny nemzeti egyseg], has already been agreed upon by the leaders of the October Party, the Association of Political Prisoners, the National Smallholders Party, and several other small groupings, Gyorgy Krasso said.

'October Party' Authorizes Coalition Talks

LD2801215790 Budapest MTI in English 1644 GMT 28 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 28 (MTI)—At the general assembly of the Hungarian October Party, held in Budapest on Saturday [27 January], Gyorgy Krasso voiced his opinion that certain people would like to force the 'small parties' out of the political arena. Therefore it is of particular importance that the Hungarian October Party was officially registered on January 26.

The 'party of the streets' would like to offer a clear and unambiguous programme to the voters, it was heard at the general assembly. The main point of this is to set up workers' share corporations, and to thus make workers interested in the efficient production of their own units.

A decision was reached under which the representative body of the party is to be authorized to hold coalition talks in the interest that the Hungarian October Party participate in the forthcoming elections as successfully as possible.

Pensioners Party Formed Amid Controversy

LD2701233590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 27 Jan 90

[Summary] [Announcer] Katalin Horvath reports on the founding of a new party composed of pensioners. This was announced at the general assembly of the organization's national association.

[Horvath] The hall was packed, with at least 300 elderly people attending. Scarcely had the chairman, Sandor Szanto, begun to say that amid the current conditions a party ought to be formed and deputies elected to parliament—since no party represented the pensioners' interests—when many people left. Some were unhappy because they felt it was too late to found a party now, just before the elections. Others asked who would this party represent, those with small or large pensions? This led to shouting among the participants, who began to list their own individual problems. The hall began to empty, but some 50 people remained, and they quickly decided to create a party within the association.

Trade Union Youth Federation Established

LD2801235590 Budapest MTI in English 1759 GMT 28 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 28 (MTI)—The Trade Union Youth Federation was set up in Budapest, with representatives of youth groups of two sectoral unions signing the founding documents. Trade union delegates of other professions have also indicated they wish to become members. This was the concrete result of the first national congress of young trade union members, held on Sunday in Balatonfured.

Conference participants were of the opinion that neither the programmes of the sectoral trade unions, nor those of the individual parties are sensitive enough to the problems of young people. The now-founded trade union youth federation is to raise its voice on behalf of one-third of the entire trade union members, that is 1.3 million young people.

The founders agreed they wish to be active as independent members of the National Federation of Trade

Unions (FTU) to be set up in March, and will send a delegate with voting rights to the FTU board.

Liberal Party To Run 3 Candidates in Elections

LD2701210990 Budapest MTI in English 1727 GMT 27 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 27 (MTI)—The Hungarian Liberal Party (HLP) is to enter three candidates in the parliamentary elections, it was announced on Saturday in Budapest, at the meeting of the party.

Present were Tibor Szabo, president of the Entrepreneurs' Party, and Stefan Musto, leader of the Budapest representation of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation.

The Hungarian Liberal Party, founded three months ago, has a membership of 100. It has agreed with the Entrepreneurs' Party to cooperate for the March parliamentary elections.

Ivan Baba, member of the HLP leadership, reported that the party has already established contacts with the Conservative Party in England, and with the Liberal Party in Italy. Contacts have also come about in Czechoslovakia with the conservative and liberal movements, and with the Independent Hungarian Initiative. A conference will shortly open with the Swiss Liberal Party on future cooperation.

Alongside the foreign relations, Baba also discussed the minority issue and said: The HLP wishes to encourage that ethnic Hungarians living in the neighboring countries be defined as state-creating ethnic groups in the new constitution.

SDPH National Board Discusses Elections

LD2701211290 Budapest MTI in English 1729 GMT 27 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 27 (MTI)—The National Board of the Social Democratic Party of Hungary (SDPH) discussed issues related to the election campaign, on Saturday [27 January] in Budapest.

Party President Anna Petrasovits stressed that all individual and partial interest should be set aside in the interest that the party be able to delegate a strong group to parliament following the free elections. Discussing the establishment of relations between the SDPH and the sectoral trade unions, she said: It must be made clear that the social democrats have concluded a pact with, and strive for cooperation with, the sectoral trade unions, and not with the Central Council of Hungarian Trade Unions.

As a result of the several hours-long debate, the social democratic candidates intended to be nominated were decided on in 152 of the 176 individual constituencies. A decision about the remaining candidates is expected to be made within a few days.

It was announced that the detailed programme of the Social Democratic Party of Hungary will shortly be sent to press.

Youth Leader Stresses Participation in Elections

LD2501093690 Budapest MTI in English 0857 GMT 25 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 25 (MTI)—"The Federation of Young Democrats [FYD] has decided to participate in the elections since, at the moment, this is the only organization which is, and will be, capable of mobilizing and engaging in politics high numbers of young people. The federation is to enter about a hundred under-30 candidates in the elections." said Viktor Orban at FYD's first election rally staged in Szekesfehervar on Wednesday evening.

"Like in the GDR and Czechoslovakia, in Hungary it is not the politicians, but the people's rage, sentiments and dissatisfaction which have forced the changes to take place," said Mr Orban.

He also pointed out that the country was on the verge of bankruptcy. Still, he thinks the situation not entirely hopeless, although the future government and parliament will inherit the ruins of the bad decisions of the past forty years. In criticism of the economic policy of the present government he said that while it is raising prices referring to the country's difficulties, it earmarks 20 million forints to the Hungarian-Soviet Friendship Society and 200 million to the Patriotic People's Front. He said although Hungary is to be an organizer of the World Expo, this year's budget lacks any reference to related costs.

"Tackling economic problems depends in the first place on the state's ability to withdraw from the economy." Mr Orban said.

Social Democrats Establish CPSU Contacts

LD2401175890 Budapest MTI in English 1611 GMT 24 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 24 (MTI)—Cooperation with the industrial and professional trade unions is not a tactical, but a strategic issue for the Social Democratic Party of Hungary, said party President Anna Petrasovits, at a press conference held on Wednesday in Budapest.

Ms Petrasovits said that agreements between her party and the sectoral trade unions prove that the Social Democratic Party of Hungary (SDP) is the only one of the opposition organizations which has proven the practice of cooperation with the trade unions to the public. The SDP considers the renewing trade union movement in Hungary, including the independent trade unions, to be its ally. MS Petrasovits was of the opinion that the current sectoral trade unions cannot be considered a part of the Stalinist trade union structure, as a progressive core within these is powerfully striving to reform the movement.

Gabor Szilagyi, the SDP foreign affairs secretary, reported that he had attended the congress of the Soviet Social Democratic Federation in mid-January, and he was also preesent at the founding conference of the Independent Social Democratic Party of Estonia. Szilagyi announced that the Social Democratic Party of Hungary had established contacts with the CPSU, and they have agreed in direct information exchange.

Social Democrats' Toth on Economic Policy

AU0502150990 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 27 Jan 90 p 16

[Interview with Alpar Toth, secretary of Hungarian Social Democratic Party in charge of economic affairs, by Judit Kozma; date and place not given: "Social Liberalism Has Become Timely"]

[Text] [Kozma] We are living through hard times. The economy is stagnating. One can only see traces of the necessary structural adjustment, and there is increasing hopelessness among the population about overcoming the increasingly serious problems of making a living. We should simultaneously revive the enterprises with a considerable injection of capital and adjust those ventures which would be forced onto the periphery of society as the losers in the process of switching to a market economy. Are these two tasks compatible with each other? What are the chances of a leftist economic policy?—we asked Alpar Toth.

[Toth] Justice, equal opportunities, and solidarity are the basic principles of social democracy. Certainly, these principles are not easy to implement. We are burdened by a debt of 20 billion [currency not specified] and by an industrial structure whose products can hardly be sold in the West, products that could rather be sold on the Eastern markets which are now collapsing. This situation must be changed by first slowing down inflation and reducing unemployment to a minimum, in other words, the population should not be suffering under unbearable burdens.

[Kozma] How can this be done?

[Toth] We want a mixed economy. This requires primarily a system of taxation and institutions which helps to introduce private capital into the economy. Among other things, we need a strong deregulation so that the state influences enterprises only through means of taxation and credit policy. This would also ease unemployment because, if the government continued a policy of encouraging ventures, private ventures could create several hundred thousand new jobs.

We are in favor of privatization for the development of a mixed economy as soon as possible. Unlike the liberals, we do not want to sell everything as soon as possible. We also recognize the right of state property to exist, but steps should also be taken in this area. With due respect to exceptions, the government did not touch the often inadequate enterprise leadership lobby. We regard it as extremely important to have professionally competent people in leading positions in the enterprises. We also regard it as necessary to eliminate the enterprise councils. The state should transfer its ownership rights to the State Property Management Institute. A democratically elected enterprise body should be created to represent the interests of the workers, a body that would have a say in the work of the enterprise.

We also regard it as an important element of a leftist economic policy that the trade union should have a greater role. The implementation of leftist values also requires people to be shifted out of their current passivity and be prepared to be able to resolve workplace conflicts; they should not strike immediately because strikes only disrupt the economy and also deter working capital.

[Kozma] All these are respectable intentions. The question is, under the current world conditions, what resources will be available for the implementation of these intentions in the near and more distant future?

[Toth] We think we need a one-time considerable price increase of 60-80 percent by which we could eliminate state subsidies. The money saved this way would go back to those in need. Some people would get nothing, but others would get as much as 100 percent compensation. In addition, we would reduce the highest level of income taxes to 35 percent and would increase the lowest level to the minimum subsistence level. We should also reduce the enterprise profit tax, and this would increase the enthusiasm for ventures, including the budget income from this sector. All this requires a totally different budget structure.

[Kozma] It seems that these principles contradict each other slightly. If we had more resources, the situation would obviously be different. Today, however, it seems that the more we want to improve social security, the more resources we must withdraw from the enterprises, and the other way round. Doesn't this leftist economic concept represent an obstacle today to market economy and to the development of ventures essential for the revival of our economy?

[Toth] In my view, we must accept the fact that the Hungarian economy has no alternative but the market economy and the revival of ventures, even if, in the short term, this requires sacrifices and certain compromises in the principles of leftist economy management. Therefore, our short-term program is not of a purely social democratic nature, but rather a social liberal program. However, we must do everything we can to ensure a thorough social control of these processes to be able to reduce the difficulties of transition.

National Bank Devalues Forint

LD0602093790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0900 GMT 6 Feb 90

[Text] The forint was devalued by one percent in our country on 31 January. The Hungarian National Bank implemented under its own sphere of authority the change in the forint's exchange rate. The unpublished devaluation of the Hungarian national currency only came to light with a change in Hungarian currency exchange rates.

National Bank President on IMF Negotiations

LD3101124490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0545 GMT 31 Jan 90

[Interview with State Secretary Ferenc Bartha, president of the Hungarian National Bank, by correspondent G. Ney; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] There is a lot of hearsay about the talks between the government and the IMF, but one hears little creditable information. [passage omitted] Here is Gyoergy Ney's interview with State Secretary Ferenc Bartha, president of the Hungarian National Bank:

[Ney] Is it true that the IMF representatives are not going to hold talks with representatives of this government any more?

[Bartha] This is not true, because we have conducted the talks, we concluded them last week, and the experts there agreed on the program for 1990.

[Ney] What do these agreements contain?

[Bartha] This agreement contains, comprises, the economic policy, financial policy, budgetary policy, for the year 1990, the way the Hungarian Government decided it, submitted it, and the Parliament adopted it.

[Ney] And did the IMF accept it, too? Because there were reports that it set demands that the Hungarian Government could not fulfill and that also for this reason the talks broke off.

[Bartha] Back in December, the IMF accepted the budgetary package that Parliament had passed, and it accepted the balance of payments target. The only thing that concerned the talks that continued in January was the credit policy, to look at what kind of credit policy is needed for this external balance improvement to come about. There were arguments about this, but we reached an agreement which we, too, can represent.

[Ney] What is your opinion on the fact that in December, at the Parliament session, the government backed the deputies up against the wall, saying that if they did not adopt the budget then the Hungarian economy would collapse by mid-February, beginning of March? Parliament adopted the budget, and yet one did not hear or read a lot to the effect that that certain amount of over one billion dollars, in exchange for this agreement, was here inside the country.

[Bartha] In actual fact, all our creditors, private creditors, governments, multilateral institutions, demanded that we adjust last year's economic policy, because otherwise the debt growth would be unstoppable. The government, the Parliament, took this on. The IMF agreement in fact sanctioned this. In other words, the IMF agreement constitutes a guarantee to the banks, the Common Market, to anyone who grants us credits, that the steps are substantive and will produce the results to which we refer. So, for this reason the IMF agreement is a prerequisite for the continuation of normal financing conditions in the nation. We now have the agreement. This opens the way not only for the Common Market's one billion ECUs [European Currency Unit], but for the normal issuing of bonds, for the taking up of credits, and for more World Bank [word indistinct] financings.

[Ney] Well, when are we in fact going to get this amount?

[Bartha] The procedure is that first of all the Hungarian Government submits the agreement reached at the expert level, and then looks at it. Apart from this the managing director approves it. This brings us up to mid-February or so. They submit it to the IMF's board of directors, which, by mid-March at the latest, will approve it—according to all expectations.

[Ney] Back in December it was said that we would not be able to survive until mid-March. But in fact it will be mid-March in any case before the country sees any money, isn't that so?

[Bartha] Of course, it must be understood that when the managing director issues the document that as far he is concerned it is okay—that is enough for us to activate the taking up of further concrete credits with the banks, and in fact also with the Common Market. That is the board that represents the governments and supports Hungary, and which in fact obliged the IMF to hold talks with an outgoing government, to reach an agreement with it...Well, it is not probable that these government representatives, who want to do good for Hungary and to help, should not approve it. So, the middle of February is a date from which we can begin normal market actions, and this will be accepted by the banks, the Common Market, and the others, too.

[Ney] [words indistinct] Why do these rumors, this kind of gossip, spread in connection with our talks with the IMF? One of these rumors was that they suspended the talks, another that the Hungarian Government suspended them, that they do not want to talk any more to this kind of transitional government, that they are hoping that soon there would be a coalition government, that we could not accept their demands—in other words, that it was we who suspended the talks, we, the ones who need the money. Why is it that we cannot see clearly what is happening in these issues, with respect to dates, with respect to the country's economy staying on its feet?

In other words, is it that the economic experts, who made the submissions to the government leaders, painted such a frightening picture for the population, or is it rather that the population simply cannot know, does not know, the details.

[Bartha] All this is gossip. But like all gossip, this too has a foundation in reality. In the IMF's practice it is not customary to conclude an agreement with an outgoing government. However, they made an exception in the case of Hungary, and they are keeping to it. It is also natural that in the case of such a rigorous policy and direction change the government protects interests to the very last. In other words, that it tries to bring about the best possible agreement. But I could say that all this is going according to the timetable outlined in Parliament in December.

MTI Reviews 1 Feb Price Increases

LD3101171990 Budapest MTI in English 1358 GMT 31 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 31, 1990 (MTI-ECONEWS)—On January 8, 1990, the Hungarian Council of Ministers made public this year's consumer price rise to be introduced on the basis of the government's economic policy programme and the state budget the Hungarian parliament approved in December. (inflation for 1990 is planned at around 20 per cent.)

Under these measures, rent, water and sewage rates, local transort fares, road and rail transport fares, and a number of telecommunications service fees will be raised from this Thursday.

A range of food products and services will also become dearer from February.

Rents will go up by 35 per cent on average. Rent for an average council flat will be increased from 12 forints to 15 forints (23 cents) per square metre, whilst rent for flats with all mod cons [modern conveniences] will rise from 15 forints to 22 forints (34 cents) per square metre.

From February, 1, passengers will have to pay 20 per cent more for their train tickets, but the rise will only apply to inland services. Long-distance passenger transport fees on roads will grow to a similar extent.

Public transport in cities will see an average 45-per-cent boost: The increase will be more considerable in Budapest than the rest of the country. Tram tickets in Budapest will cost 8 forints (13 cents), and a ticket for a single bus journey 10 forints (16 cents).

A number of food products will also become more expensive from Thursday, and another price rise will follow hot on the heels of this one on February 5: No details are so far available.

Central European Investment Fund Set Up

LD2601193490 Budapest MTI in English 0947 GMT 26 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 26, 1990 (MTI-ECONEWS)—An investment venture with headquarters in Washington, Budapest and Prague was reported here on Thursday night [25 January] to have been founded under the name Central European Development Corporation (CDEC).

Andrew Sarlos, Canadian businessman of Hungarian origin, president of the Toronto-based Andrew Sarlos Associates, has again managed to win about the same Canadian and U.S. investors, who had already put money in the first Hungarian fund set up with capital of 80 million USD last year.

Legal preparations are under way to bring together the second Hungarian fund.

CEDC is a closed, private fund, Mr Sarlos told ECONEWS. No precise figures are available yet on CEDS's capital, but it is certain to top the 80 million USD of the first Hungarian fund.

Under their first deal, the Central European Development Corporation (CEDC) bought 50 per cent of the shares of Hungary's General Banking and Trust Company for 10 million USD from the Hungarian Ministry of Finance, the sole owner up to now. Andrew Sarlos has been appointed chairman of the Board of Directors of the General Banking and Trust PLC.

Mr Sarlos said the key figure in the CEDC—which is to focus its operations on Central Europe, particularly Hungary and Czechoslovakia—will be Robert Lauder, an American millionaire, but a significant role will also go to two Canadians: Albert Reichmann, of Hungarian origin, and Seymour Holzman.

Mr Sarlos also announced that Mark Palmer, U.S. ambassador to Hungary, an extremely popular figure here whose term is to expire this summer, will leave the diplomatic service after the Hungarian elections on March 25 to become chairman and chief executive officer of the Central European Development Corporation.

Sandor Demjan, chairman and chief executive of the Hungarian Credit Bank, Hungary's largest commercial bank, is also to resign his current post and will be given an office, so far undisclosed, in the leadership of the new corporation.

Comecon Seeking Exchange Rate Mechanisms Reform

LD2501234390 Budapest MTI in English 1425 GMT 25 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 25, 1990 (MTI-ECONEWS)—Hungary and Czechoslovakia have agreed at a recent Prague meeting of the COMECON foreign exchange and finance committee that they will terminate an agreement which was made in 1963 and has proved impracticable, that tourism and non-commercial exchange rates should be tied to the Rouble.

Hungary has already begun talks with Czechoslovakia with a view to eventually having the exchange rates of their currencies decided by the market, a situation which would only apply if citizens of one country were allowed to buy the currency from the other without restriction, and customs regulations were considerably relaxed. As this is still far from being the case, both sides agree that inter-state agreements are still necessary for the time being.

The COMECON countries are rethinking how tourist rates of exchange are to be worked out. East Germany and Czechoslovakia want to revalue their currencies against the Forint to take account of Hungary's inflation rate, while Hungary insists that other factors, such as the better supply of goods in Hungary, be considered, and wants the practice of comparing consumer baskets to decide exchange rates abolished.

As an intermediate solution the rates of the individual currencies could be floated against each other within certain limits.

It is believed that a progress in the reform of commercial payments could also promote changes in fixing tourist and non-commercial rates of exchange.

Hungary believes that financial reform of the COMECON, now in its 41st year, should start with the member countries' comparing ideas on an eventual system of convertible currency accounting. Members are already planning to study to what extent accounts could be settled using their own national currencies.

The Prague meeting decided that the members will elaborate a draft programme for a switch-over to a new accounting system by May, which would be introduced in 1991.

Medgyessy Confers With CEMA's Sychev

LD2501232690 Budapest MTI in English 1944 GMT 25 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 25 (MTI)—Peter Medgyessy, deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers and current chairman of the Executive Committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, met Vyacheslav Sychev, secretary of the CMEA, in Budapest on Thursday.

The discussion covered the work of the high-level committee in charge of radically changing the system of economic cooperation within the CMEA. The preparations for the next CMEA session, scheduled for summer, and the topical tasks facing the next meeting of the CMEA Executive Committee were also discussed.

Szuros Receives American-Hungarian Representative

LD0502181690 Budapest MTI in English 1600 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Budapest, February 5 (MTI)—Matyas Szuros, interim president of the Republic of Hungary, received Zoltan Szasz, foreign secretary of the American-Hungarian Association, in Parliament on Monday. During their meeting, they dealt with the process of democratization in Hungary and the arrangements for the March elections, the dramatic changes in Eastern Europe and the Romanian revolution, and the situation of the Hungarian minority in Transylvania.

Cultural Collaboration With Romania Planned

AU2901205290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1333 GMT 29 Jan 90

["Actions of Solidarity With Romania"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 29/1/1990—The "Erkel" theater in Budapest played host on Sunday to a musical-literary show organized under the title "We Greet Romania" by Studio 90 of the Hungarian Television and the State Opera Company of Budapest.

The show was patronaged by the Hungarian Foreign Minister Mr. Gyula Horn. The money raised will serve to organize artistic tours of Romania.

The setting up of the "Duna-Olt" foundation, the target of which is to promote cultural collaboration between Romania and Hungary, was also announced during the show.

A musical-literary show was organized the same evening at the cultural centre of the Hungarian capital's sector II in support of the theater in Timisoara.

Timisoara Pastor Tokes Pays Two-Week Visit

LD0302193990 Budapest MTI in English 1804 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Budapest, February 3 (MTI)—Laszlo Tokes, pastor of Timisoara, member of the Romanian Council of National Salvation Front, arrived in Budapest on Friday evening. Concerning his programme in Hungary, the pastor forwarded the following (rectifying) statement to MTI:

"I had the opportunity to look into the Hungarian newspapers on board the plane, and I was very pleased to read the news about my scheduled arrival. It was reported that during my two-week visit to Hungary I wish to serve the cause of apeacement.

At the same time, I find it regrettable that such news also appeared on my visit which does not correspond to the facts. Thus for example the statements that I am to bring some sort of document to Prime Minister Nemeth or that I am scheduled to meet with Otto Von Habsburg, member of the Council of Europe, during my visit to Sarospatak, are both unfounded. I have to say that I was not only surprised but also perplexed to read this news. I have respect for Mr Habsburg, for his work in the Parliament of Europe, and I am also grateful to him for raising his voice to protect me as well. In case his visit to Sarospatak should coincide with my visit I would be glad to shake his hand," Mr Tokes said.

According to MTI's information, Mr Habsburg was invited to pay a visit by the Friendship Circle of the students of Sarospatak, and with its fulfillment an old wish of theirs will come true. Thus the meeting of Messrs Habsburg and Tokes will be a coincidence.

Meets With Defense Minister

LD0302194390 Budapest MTI in English 1809 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Budapest, February 3 (MTI)—Ferenc Karpati, Hungarian minister of defence, visited at his Budapest residence on Saturday, visiting Romanian Pastor Laszlo Tokes and his family. MTI was told by Colonel Gyorgy Keleti, ministry spokesman. During the private meeting, the sides discussed the Hungarian Romanian military ties established during the Romanian revolution. Including Mr Tokes's role in the events.

The Hungarian pastor informed Mr Karpati that the appeal by the Hungarian military leadership was also significant in the protection he was provided by the staff of the Romanian Army, both in the days of crisis and to the present day. It was proposed by Mr Tokes that as part of the strengthening Hungarian-Romanian military relations, it would be a welcome gesture if an invitation could be extended to a group of twenty Romanian soldiers for a few day's visit to Hungary. Mr Karpati agreed with the proposal.

Discusses Status of Refugees

LD0402210790 Budapest MTI in English 0938 GMT 4 Feb 90

[Text] Budapest, February 4 (MTI)—Rev. Tokes, visiting pastor of Timisoara, Romania, met with foreign journalists on Sunday afternoon, at the College of the Reformed Church in Debrecen (E. Hungary)

The clergyman took a position on the issue of Romanian refugees, saying that the newly won freedom did not put an end to emigration by ethnic Hungarians from Romania, on the contrary, it was even stimulated. The status of refugee is a right expressly connected to political persecution. The explanation that life in Transylvania is unbearable and that one must escape from the country, has now lost its credit in Romania. Rev. Tokes requested that Hungary should stop supporting and encouraging further emigration from hereon. Hungary would render most help if it were to refrain from leaving the door open for further emigrants.

The time has finally come for a church to be built in Timisoara, since among the towns with significant Hungarian history, this is the only one without a church. The new church will be a symbol, a kind of memorial for Romania's liberation, it was announced by Rev. Tokes.

Views Hungarian-Romanian Relations

LD0502182190 Paris International Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] [Announcer] Eva Cseh reports on Laszlo Tokes's itinerary for today. The Reformed Church priest from Timisoara is delivering a celebratory service in Gyula:

[Begin Cseh recording] We must be patient in judging the Hungarian-Romanian relationship, since freedom ran over Romania as suddenly as the sudden outburst of the warmth of spring, which could even bring the danger of a flood, said Laszlo Tokes during his visit to Gyula, where he met town leaders this morning. Laszlo Tokes was then received by the Democratic Federation of Romanians in Hungary on behalf of the almost 30,000-strong Romanian minority living in Hungary. For me, even the simple fact of being together means a lot, since a few months ago this would have been unimaginable. We lived at arms length from each other, and now it feels good to be a guest and at home here, because I remember that I came from home over there. It feels good to speak Romanian, now that it has ceased to be the language of oppression; therefore I speak it with goodwill, said Laszlo Tokes. There was agreement that to be European is unimaginable if nations do not behave with tolerance toward minorities. [end recording]

Opinion Poll Results on Romanian Refugees

AU0502121690 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 24 Jan 90 p 9

[Interview with opinion pollsters Jozsef Tarjanyi and Tibor Zavecz by Gyozo Daniss; date and place not given: "Survey on Romanian Refugees—Few People Are Preparing To Go Home"]

[Excerpts] The Ceausescu-regime forced a number of Romanian citizens to escape in the last 2 or 2 and ½ years. The number is equivalent to the population of a small town. The dictator is dead, and the new leaders have distanced themselves from the terrible past. The refugees could even return. Will they? We do not know. No survey has been carried out yet on this. However, we can draw conclusions. In the spring of 1989, opinion poll experts of the Social Research Information Association (TARKI) asked 1,367 Romanian citizens of Hungarian ethnic origin about the circumstances of their escape and of their living in Hungary. We have already reported about this survey. We now ask Jozsef Tarjanyi and Tibor Zavecz about the extent to which one can regard as final the stay of refugees in Hungary and how many people want to return. [passage omitted]

[Daniss] How many people said they would return once "the bad times" are over?

[Tarjanyi/Zavecz] Some seven percent thought they would go on to other countries, and 87 percent wanted to stay. Some three percent did not know what to answer. Another three percent said they would return. [passage omitted]

[Daniss] Is it possible that only so few refugees want to go back to their homeland?

[Tarjanyi/Zavecz] It is possible. Think about it: Those who chose to escape one or two years ago obviously considered their decision thoroughly and regarded their decisions as final, at least in the majority of cases. [passage omitted]

[Daniss] Many people welcome the fact that the refugees have increased the Hungarian population in Hungary. Others are concerned about the decrease in the number of Hungarians in Transylvania. Many people among the refugees feel ashamed for leaving their compatriots behind in the bitter conditions prevailing there. Quite a few Hungarians in Transylvania accuse those who want to settle in Hungary of treason. Who is right? Can we achieve justice in such issues?

[Tarjanyi/Zavecz] One should by no means "classify" these people. Anyone who wants to evaluate these things should know exactly the circumstances of each individual, circumstances that made him start a new life. It is possible that there are people who can give thanks for their lives due to the fact that they left the Romanian communist dictatorship. [passage omitted]

'Hungarians in Romania' Official Interviewed

LD2801194390 Budapest MTI in English 1728 GMT 28 Jan 90

[Text] Bucharest, January 28 (MTI)—MTI's Bucharest correspondent asked Geza Domokos, member of the Romanian National Salvation Front and president of the Provisional Executive Committee of the Democratic Federation of Hungarians in Romania (DFHR), about the reports circulated by Western news agencies, according to which Laszlo tokes had resigned from the Council of the Natonal Salvation Front.

Are the reports true?

"No, The reports do not accord to reality. I am in contact with Laszlo Tokes, who is in Timisoara, as he is also a member of the Provisional Executive Committee of the DFHR. What did happen was that we were both filled with anxiety by the circular of the Ministry of Education, issued on Saturday, which questions and tries to stop the favourable processes that have begun in education in the mother language. We also held as erroneous and hasty the way in which the Deputy Minister Function of Attila Palfalvi was cancelled. No consultations were held either with him, or even with me who personally made a proposal for his appointment." Domokos said.

"These developments have given a semblence to the work of the Front with which we cannot agree. We informed Ion Iliescu, president of the Front, that unless we find a solution, even at the price of a common compromise, to the situation that has come about, that if decisions will continue to be made which violate the rights of the Hungarians in Romania, which rights are recognized also in the statement of the front, then we shall leave the Council of the National Salvation Front. This did not come about as we held talks characterized by reciprocal understanding with Ion Iliescu and Prime Minister Petre Roman, and their approach was one of understanding in the education issue, and they made decisions that accord to the current situation.

"I informed the leaders of the Front that we uphold the right to request a consultation opportunity in all further personnnel or collective decisions related to the ethnic Hungarian minority, and we also expect this to be granted to us. Ion Iliescu gave a reassuring answer to this, too. Prime Minister Petre Roman promised that all school and educational organs concerned will receive, by Monday morning, the directives of the Ministry of Education, and the decision in which representatives of the front and the democratic federation of Hungarians in Romanian reached an agreement", Domokos said, in the interview with MTI.

Medgyessy Attends Davos World Economic Forum

Received by Swiss Foreign Minister

LD0302190690 Budapest MTI in English 1558 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Davos, February 3 (MTI)—At the invitation of this year's World Economy Forum, deputy prime minister Peter Medgyessy is currently paying a visit in Davos, Switzerland.

On Saturday morning [3 February], Mr Medgyessy met with Rene Felber, Swiss Foreign Minister. Their discussions also touched on the Swiss draft programme under elaboration for supporting East European reforms, which is due to be submitted in March, with urgency. Under the plan, Hungary would be provided various forms of support in training-education, environment protection and privatisation. Switzerland is also intending to provide funds for the entrepreneurial fund, recently founded by the Hungarian government.

Discussions also involved the new European situation, primarily the developments in East-West relations. The question of German re-unification was also on the agenda, and Mr Medgyessy had the following to say on this: The German reunification is an unavoidable process, considered as a reality by Hungarian policy. At the same time it is essential that this change, due to transform the whole political and economic character of Europe, should take place gradually, continuously and under control. The direct integration endeavours of small countries is of particular significance in this situation, and this includes the Hungarian initiative that resulted in the declaration last November in Budapest by

Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Italy, on their intention to intensify their cooperation.

The endeavours to increase internal cooperation manifest in the CMEA are also significant. Thus for instance between Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland, Mr Medgyessy reported.

"Switzerland has an interest in stabilisation endeavours and in that transformations do not take place abruptly and uncontrollably," Mr Felber stated.

Addresses Forum

LD0402190690 Budapest MTI in English 1723 GMT 4 Feb 90

[Text] Davos, February 4 (MTI)—"The West should differentiate in its approach to countries of Eastern Europe," it was said by Peter Medgyessy, Hungarian deputy prime minister at the World Economy Forum being held in Davos, Switzerland. Mr Medgyessy was speaking at the conference surveying the situation of market oriented East European countries.

"Today, we can no longer equate the countries of Eastern Europe, progressing with their reforms under different conditions. Some of them have already begun their transition to a market economy, while others are only at the stage of contemplating it, and others are yet hesitant as to the course of development to take," Mr Medgyessy continued.

In his lecture held at the plenary session, Mr Medgyessy emphasized, that the pace of peaceful transition in Hungary has increased in recent months, which in itself is a guarantee against a possible roll-back. The West has so far been following the changes in Hungary with great sympathy and also supported them. At the same time, it has to be borne in mind that extreme manifestations have also appeared in Hungarian political life which should caution the West to support only the really acceptable changes in Hungary.

Mr Medgyessy also met with leading personalities of the Austrian banking world and held disucssions on the possibility of Hungarian-Austrian financial cooperation. The exchange held with Italian Foreign Minister, de Michelis, focused on the way in which the cooperation emerging between Hungary, Austria, Yugoslavia and Italy, could serve European stability. Mr de Michelsi reported that a bill is shortly to be presented to the Italian parliament which is designed to provide speedy assistance to Hungary, primarily in the training of experts and promotion of privatisation.

Mr Medgyessy also met with press magnate Robert Maxwell. To discuss a privatisation of some Hungarian Newspapers. Mr Maxwell said he is providing the equivalent of five million forints in foreign currency to support the new periodical of the Hungarian Writers' Union entitled "European Passenger" (Europai Utas).

Views Elections, Debt

LD0502203290 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] [Announcer] We have spoken to Deputy Prime Minister Peter Medgyessy, who represented Hungary at the Davos forum because Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth was unable to attend owing to previous engagements.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] In view of the forthcoming elections, how do Western businessmen and politicians negotiate now with the Hungarian side, with representatives of the Hungarian Government?

[Medgyessy] In effect they did not make a distinction between the help to be offered prior to the elections and afterward. The issue of easing the debt burden was raised. It was impossible to find a concrete solution to this as yet. I trust that it will be a formula that involves no loss of prestige—without our requesting any rescheduling, because we have no such intention, and anyway history has proven this to be a wrong road. Still it may be possible to find some kind of assistance, and for this I felt that there was such an intention or endeavor even by the French side, for example, President Bahr [name as heard] expressed such an endeavor.

They called attention to the fact that going too fast could bring social and political problems and tensions. Thus they cautioned us, impressing upon us the importance of stability. Of course this was addressed to not only this government, perhaps even the least to this one, but rather to future ones. Regarding stability and a satisfactory sense of security, capital moves where it sees security, stability, and continuity, and, from this point of view, it is very significant that Hungarian progress should be without extremes. [end recording]

Medgyessy Arrives in Paris 5 Feb

LD0502140190 Budapest MTI in English 1251 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Paris, February 5 (MTI)—Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister Peter Medgyessy arrived in Paris on Monday to confer with State Minister of Economy Pierre Beregovoy, give a lecture at the College of Political Sciences, and meet company managers.

Previously, Mr Medgyessy delivered a lecture about economic restructuring in Hungary at the World Economic Forum in Davos. Monday's LE FIGARO covers the conference at length, and includes Medgyessy's contribution.

The paper says the participating economic experts and businessmen expressed their sympathy for the Central and East European changes through a "real referendum."

Pozsgay Assesses Visit to Israel

LD0502090690 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1800 GMT 4 Feb 90

[Interview with Minister of State Imre Pozsgay by unidentified correspondent on "The Week" program; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Israeli Premier Shamir said after his conversation with you that Imre Pozsgay provided him with important explanations about the new way of thinking in Hungary. Would you tell us what was this explanation which Premier Shamir considered so important?

[Pozsgay] What I considered my chief task was to brief our Israeli partners about the experiences of the political turnabout, of the change of system, and about the openness and publicity, which arose in the wake of this political turnabout. Thus it was also mentioned that Hungary, by virtue of the role it played in the political transformation, is able to be open and to make decisions in a sovereign manner on important matters such as the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel, or the transit for GDR refugees. Led by this humanistic way of thinking, Hungary opened a free way and undertook a mediating role in ensuring that Russian Jewish emigrees reach their destination, thus smoothing the way of those going to Israel. These things all happened at once.

Apart from this, without doubt, another issue that came up was the situation, the way of life, of the Jewish community living in Hungary, and what are their prospects.

[Correspondent] I presume that the life of this community is followed with attention in Israel, and that the news has reached Israel that many people think they have discovered growing anti-Semitism in Hungary. Did this come up in the course of your conversations?

[Pozsgay] There is no doubt that Israeli public opinion is preoccupied with this, too, and that it is of particular concern to those who emigrated to Israel from a Hungarian-speaking region and found a new home there. [passage omitted] Well, this, too, as well as the sense of shared responsibility for world Jewry, may be the reason why they are paying attention to the phenomenon of anti-Semitism, and why people have taken heed to it in our country as well. I did not deny that such phenomena accompany press freedom and the extension of the freedom of speech.

However, I also said that here not only the life of the Jewish community but the community life and situation of Magyardom as a whole have become a wasteland in the past 40 years. Matters that ought to have been discussed became taboo topics. Things not openly discussed became hidden matters. At such times as these, when a society is fired with enthusiasm, then, to be sure, the froth and the sediment appear as well.

Nevertheless, I asked both Mr. Premier Shamir and my other discussion partners as well, with whom this topic came up, to judge Hungary on the basis of precise information and knowledge of the situation. Incidentally, nowhere did I experience impatience in this matter; nowhere did I experience any kind of hostility on this account toward Hungary. [passage omitted]

I did not experience any kind of survival expectation, to the effect that we should wait and see what happens after the elections. These discussions were definitely objective and revealed appropriate mutual respect. [passage omitted]

It is certain that the missing 40 years of political culture is the reason why in Hungary now dozens of parties and persons—at times even small fry and men of importance—who get mixed up in this flood want to seize this moment to gain some kind of power position. They want to seize this moment to express themselves. After all, they cannot yet know who supports them, for an election in Hungary has not taken place. I trust that this froth will disappear from the surface of Hungarian public life. I trust that the anxious feeling and the fear that is aroused as a result of the calling to account and as a result of the disparagement, and even at times ignominious statements, will pass away from society as a whole, and in an established democracy, here as well, their place will be taken by debate on programs and concepts.

Political Activity in Armed Forces To End

LD0202230590 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2200 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] The Ministry of National Defense Military Council, under the chairmanship of General Florian Siwicki, has examined issues related to soldiers' affiliation to political parties. It was decided to take steps to suspend all party activity within the Armed Forces.

The Council emphasized that disturbing phenomena have appeared in the Army—not without external inspiration—that threaten order and discipline, and hence threaten the coherence and battle alertness of the Armed Forces. These issues are to be discussed at the next meeting of the National Defense Committee.

SDRP Urges Depoliticizing Armed Forces

AU0202162290 Warsaw TRYBUNA KONGRESOWA in Polish 30 Jan 90 p 6

[Statement issued by the Founding Congress of the Social Democracy of the Polish Republic in Warsaw on 29 January]

[Text] The Founding Congress of the Socialist Democracy of the Polish Republic addresses the following appeal to Polish state authorities:

—We fully share the desire to depoliticize the Armed Forces and the internal security services, institutions that for many years remained the exclusive province of one party, a fact which gave rise to a harmful social atmosphere and legal order.

—We think that no citizen of our country should be limited in the enjoyment of his citizens' rights while he goes about the performance of his professional duties. Among these rights are: freedom of conscience, freedom of political conviction, and freedom of association. In our opinion, membership in the party organization structures, in the Armed Forces, in the Militia, and the Security Services, and likewise in the judiciary, the Prosecutor's Office, and all the branches of our state administration, is one thing, while the right of officers, militiamen, and administration officials to belong to any party of their choice outside their workplace is completely another.

We are putting forward this view in the hope that it may be taken into full consideration.

The Founding Congress of the Social Democracy of the Polish Republic. Warsaw, 29 January 1990.

Council Discusses Internal Affairs Ministry

LD0502230890 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2200 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] [Announcer] The Council of Ministers has been deliberating for several hours under the chairmanship of Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki. Our reporter Andrzej Jelenski has a report on the deliberations so far:

[Jelenski] When I left the Council of Ministers building a few minutes before 2300 [2200 GMT], the government meeting was still continuing. After presenting a report on the results of the visit of Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki at the Council of Europe, the EEC and in Belgium, the proposal was taken up to discuss changes in the functioning of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The Council of Ministers meeting was dominated by a discussion of three draft laws: one on the office of the internal affairs minister; one on the defense of the state's and its citizens' security and also security and public order; and also one on the professional service of functionaries of the republic's Security Service [SB] and the Citizens' Militia [MO].

As of this moment, the discussion on the draft of the first law has been closed, while discussion on the second is continuing. During the discussion it transpired that the deputies and government drafts are in general accord. However, when a detailed consideration of the proposed legal acts began, it was realized that many points are not fully worked out. Thus, the discussion over these has been continuing for many hours now.

Meanwhile, this work cannot be deferred, as the said three draft laws relating to the further functioning of the Internal Affairs Ministry are to be handed over for the first reading at the coming Sejm. When I asked members of the cabinet, coming out of the meeting hall, how long the Council of Ministers meeting might continue, it was stated that it will last until well after midnight [2300 GMT].

One can assume that the remaining points on the agenda—specifically, the draft state law on the state territorial adminstration or the problem of the so-called threats resulting from credit policy in relation to agriculture—might not be discussed during this session.

Further on Discussions

LD0602072490 Warsaw PAP in English 0100 GMT 6 Feb 90

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 5—Poland's Council of Ministers chaired by Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki considered here today draft laws on the Office of Minister of Internal Affairs, on police and state protection office and on an amendment of the law on the service of security service functionaries and the civic militia.

The laws are to constitute the basis for the first stage of a radical restructuring of the organs for protection of law and security. They will permit to adjust these organs to the democratic changes of the system, including the constitutional norm which grants the status of lawful state to the Republic of Poland.

Office of Minister of Internal Affairs

The first of the drafts regulates legal and system issues in the functioning of the Office of the Minister of Internal Affairs.

The minister of internal affairs will stop to perform the function of an organ directly carrying out executive tasks. They will be taken over by the police chief commander and the chief of the State Protection Office who will perform the role of central organs of the state administration.

The scope of the minister's activity is to be extended by close coopertion with self-government authorites.

The minister's tasks clearly focus on the protection of the constitutional rights and civil freedoms.

The minister and organs subordinated to him will be legally made independent of direct influence of political parties. The minister is to implement only the government's policy.

On Police Office

The draft envisages disbandment of the civic militia and security service which are to be replaced with the police and the State Protection Office. These two services, the former for protection of citizens' security and public order and the latter one for protection of the state security, will be separated. The police chief commander and the chief of the State Protection Office, appointed separately, will head the organs.

The draft law states that it will be possible to use the police serried troops only in exceptional cases and on orders from the prime minister.

A decision on use of military forces will have to be taken by the whole state leadership.

Interior Ministry 'Restructuring' Outlined

LD0202222990 Warsaw PAP in English 2005 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] Warsaw. Feb. 2 (PAP)—President of the Polish Republic and Chairman of the National Defence Committee, Wojciech Jaruzelski, received the leadership of the Interior Ministry.

The leadership of the ministry briefed the president on the next and considerably advanced stage of work on restructuring the interior ministry, including deep reorganization and considerable reduction of posts in the security services, from 9,193 to 3,542.

The leadership presented also essential solutions contained in draft laws on the office of the interior minister, on the protection of the security of the state and citizens and security and public order and proper organs dealing with these questions, and on amending the law on the services of functionaries of the security services and the militia.

There are plans to fully separate the police from the Office of the Protection of the State as the two central bodies of the state administration subordinated to the interior minister. There are also plans to examine the projects mentioned above by the Council of Ministers in the coming future.

Besides, the leadership of the Interior Ministry acquainted the Polish president with the state of preparations for standing the work of a trade union of militia functionaries in the Interior Ministry.

The president was briefed on the sharply rising crime, particularly against the citizens' property, on the scale unprecedented in the entire post-war period, on the dangerous state of safety on roads and acquainted with the causes and difficulties in limiting these social ills.

Participants in the meeting pointed out that the militia became the object of not always objective attacks contained in some publications.

Interior Minister Gen. Czeslaw Kiszczak reported to the president that, carrying out orders of Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the leadership of his ministry took steps to stop growing crime, to improve public order and to neutralize negative determinants.

The president pointed to the necessity of further socialization of the work of the ministry and of broad information about its work.

PZPR Files Reportedly Seized, Destroyed

LD0202223190 Warsaw PAP in English 2008 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] Wroclaw, Feb.—Wroclaw residents were disturbed by reports on destroying files and documents by former staffers of the Voivodship Committee of the dissolved PUWP [Polish United Workers Party, PZPR] who... dumped them in the Odra River.

In an interview with PAP journalist, Dariusz Bednarek—chairman of the Solidarnosc Commission at the Wroclaw State Archives office said: "from the Odra River, we really fished out remnants of documents from the former PUWP.

An end was put to taking files and documents from the former building of the PUWP Voivodship Committee to be stored as waste paper as a result of a decisive intervention by the management and the Solidarnosc commission at the Wroclaw State Archives Office.

Steps were also taken to immediately seal and preserve the entire remaining documentation of the PUWP archives.

PPS-RD Distrusts Post-PZPR Parties

LD0502191790 Warsaw PAP in English 1850 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 5—The Supreme Council of the Polish Socialist Party-Democratic Revolution (PPS-RD) conveyed to PAP a statement which voiced distrust towards the parties which were founded following the dissolution of the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP) [PZPR]

"The forming of the Social Democracy of the Republic of Poland (SDRP) and the Social-Democratic Union (USDRP) constitutes an attempt on the part of the political nomenklatura to survive in the new alignment of forces," the statement read.

The document stressed that the property of the former PUWP should be assigned for heeding the most urgent needs of society: The improvement of health service, education and social welfare. "We see no reason for the SDRP or any other party to enjoy any property privileges which came as a result of PUWP's unlawful activity," the statement said.

Interparty Talks Held on Electoral Law

LD0302213490 Warsaw PAP in English 2025 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 3—Representatives of the Civic Committee of Lech Walesa, the Citizens' Parliamentary Floor Group, the Office of the President and the government held a meeting today with those political groups which have no mandates in parliament and people's councils.

Part of the participants in the meeting forwarded a postulate to hold free, inter-party discussion under the auspices of the Sejm. They said that there was a need to work out jointly a pluralistic electoral law to parliament and to create a new constitution as a collective work of all political currents.

Minister Aleksander Hall said the government was open to such discussions, and added that of importance in this respect would be a bill on political parties, to be passed in the near future. The government, Hall said, intends to consistently remove the privileged positions of the forces which were in power till last June.

Kwasniewski 'Astonished' at Walesa Statement

LD0202231190 Warsaw PAP in English 2203 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 2 (PAP)—Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Social Democracy of the Republic of Poland (SDRP), Aleksander Kwasniewski, conveyed to PAP an open letter, which he sent on 1 February to chairman of the independent, self-governing trade union "Solidarnosc", Lech Walesa. The letter reads:

"Mr Chairman.

"You have many times declared yourself as a supporter of pluralism. Therefore, I was most astonished listening to your statement at a press conference on Frebruary 1, in which you refused the SDRP the right to exist.

"Strange and lame would be such a pluralism which would give the right to act only to the chosen and appointed ones. Each political movement, each organisation can be a valuable participant in political life only when it makes independent decisions about its programme and organisational shape, when it contributes its values, convictions and experience to democracy.

"The SDRP has been founded as a party acting in the system of parliamentary democracy and one that has been democratically organised. We have resolutely rejected violence as an instrument of policy. We are not and will not be a state party.

"We have passed a tough judgement on the Stalinist past and the system of rule created by the Polish United Workers Party [PUWP].

"The SDRP is a new party. Everyone who wants to join it has to, once and for good, bid farewell to longing for the dictatorship of the proletariat, the 'leading role' or 'the only right solutions.'

"Yet, the right to a new assessment of the situation cannot be taken from anyone. We are defending the right to a public and political presence for all those members of the former PUWP who tried to perform their professional and citizens' duties day by day, as best as they could. Do not, Mr Chairman, put them against the wall.

"The SDRP does not want to take over anybody else's property. For the social good we want to solve the questions of assets quickly and effectively, in accordance with the law and in cooperation with the government.

"We think that what was created from the generosity of the people of the left should serve all its contemporary currents and organisations. We are ready for talks.

"The dialogue, cooperation and national agreement are the most important values and rules of social order which we want to build together with others. I believe that referring to the good experiences of our cooperation during the roundtable talks we can prove it once again," the letter concludes.

Walesa, Navy Commander Hold Talks in Gdansk

LD0502195490 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Interview with Solidarity Chairman Lech Walesa and Rear Admiral Romuald Waga, commander in chief of the Navy, by unidentified correspondent in Gdansk; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Lech Walesa, chairman of the Independent, Self-governing Trade Union Solidarity, has been visited at Solidarity headquarters by Rear Admiral Romuald Waga, commander in chief of the Navy. The purpose of the visit, among other things, was to allow the two politicians to become closely acquainted, because Rear Adm Waga took up his post in our naval defense forces only recently. Mr Chairman, what was the subject of the talk?

[Walesa] We spoke about how Poland is one country, about how we do not always appreciate the great efforts of the Army, and how terribly necessary it is for us to defend our borders, and also to draw conclusions from the current state of affairs and political (?abuses) for the future of the Army. We hope that a greater understanding will come about when we meet often to clarify matters for each other. It is necessary to find a place for everyone and to understand everyone. Poland is (?above) everything. The Army, on the other hand, the Army—we have done little in relations to this (?arm of the forces).

[Correspondent] And your view, Admiral?

[Waga] My visit was, in actual fact, a courtesy visit, but in this meeting with the chairman a number of problems relating to the current situation in the country, and the proper place and role of the Army in it, were also raised. In fact, we are in agreement. Our views are concordant; some are the same. I judge that what the chairman said is a matter for further implementation as far as the Army and Navy are concerned. I am very pleased with this visit, and I also took the opportunity to invite the chairman to meetings with our cadres, with sailors, and with units at sea.

Poll Claims Solidarity Losing Support

AU0602105090 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 1 Feb 90 p 2

['St.'-signed report: "Public Opinion Research Center—'Solidarity' Losing Support"]

[Text] If the elections to the Sejm and Senate had taken place on 21 January, "Solidarity" would have secured 48 percent of the votes, according to the poll conducted by the Public Opinion Research Center. The Polish United Workers Party [PZPR], and the Democratic Party [SD], would have received 2 percent each. The United Peasant Party [ZSL] would have received 3 percent, and the other parties, or political orientations would have secured only 4 percent in total. Some 40 percent of those polled were undecided or would have boycotted these hypothetical elections.

In the poll taken in November 1989, "Solidarity" registered 11 percent more support. Its past supporters have not, however, defected to the other parties, but rather, have swelled the ranks of the undecided, or the "apathetic." The SD has lost some 33 percent of its support, and the PZPR around 20 percent. The rating of other parties has increased, but only very insignificantly.

The results of these findings show that neither the "old," or the "new" political configurations pose any real electoral threat to "Solidarity." Those analyzing the November and the January poll results are of the opinion that real political differentiation will only come when different political currents begin to flow out of "Solidarity" itself.

At the time of this January poll, the ZSL had already ceased to exist, and it is interesting to note that its supporters had not noticed the fact and gave the defunct party their support (the Polish Peasant Party - Rebirth, only secured 1.7 percent support).

It is difficult not to pass comment on this fact in the light of the poll's title, namely, "The Political Scene in the Consciousness of Society."

Foreign Ministry on Ties With West, Reform

LD0502135490 Warsaw PAP in English 1137 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 5 (PAP)—Foreign Ministry spokesman Stefan Staniszewski told Zycie Warszawy today:

"The results of the talks which Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki recently held at the Council of Europe, the EEC, and with Belgium's premier are encouraging. One notes interest among Western countries in expanding mutually advantageous ties with Polish Partners under the new political and legal conditions in our country. We are counting on the West taking the next step and assisting us in effective political and economic restructuring, in the implementation of the difficult program of economic reform which aims at turning Poland into a sound partner in international economic cooperation. At issue is above all an easing of the repayment of Poland's foreign debt which chiefly consists of interest, which we were unable to pay.

"The interest in Poland and in the reforms pursued in our country is still alive. The invitation for the prime minister to pay visits to the U.S. and Great Britain in the nearest future goes to prove this. The Polish minister of foreign affairs will visit the Soviet Union, Finland, the GDR, Yugoslavia, and will take part in an 'open skies' conference in Ottawa.

"The initiative presented by the prime minister to the Sejm January 18 on setting up an European cooperation council encompassing countries which signed the Helsinki final act was well received in a majority of European states."

Konarski Calls Vienna CSCE Seminar 'Success'

LD0502201290 Warsaw PAP in English 1937 GMT 5 Feb 90

[By PAP correspondent Andrzej Rayzacher]

[Text] Vienna, Feb. 5—Delegates of Poland, the U.S. and the FRG have told press conferences here that a three-week seminar of the 35 CSCE states on military doctrines and concepts was a success.

The seminar, which closed today, was attended by high-ranking military officials of the participating states who discussed military doctrines and concepts combined with the possibilities of the existing armed forces in a "calm, and matter-of-fact way," head of the Polish delegation Ambassador Wlodzimierz Konarski said.

He also recalled that the idea to hold the seminar originated from the Polish side plan to decrease armaments and increase confidence in Europe.

Jaruzelski Receives Fiszbach 1 Feb

LD0102225590 Warsaw PAP in English 2212 GMT 1 Feb 90

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 1—President Wojciech Jaruzelski received chairman of the founding group of the Social-Democratic Union of the Polish Republic and Sejm Deputy Speaker Tadeusz Fiszbach and Sejm Deputy Wieslawa Ziolkowska today.

The founding group was set up during the congress of Social- Democracy of the Polish Republic and adopted a declaration of intentions, with which Fiszbach acquainted the president.

The president voiced his conviction that the Union would cooperate with other leftist groupings for the benefit of the Polish people and the state. The president noticed the announcement of exactly such constructive cooperation in the existence of the joint parliamentary club of the democratic Left.

Jaruzelski wished founders of the Union that cooperation of various currents of the Left, started in the Sejm, could cover also other areas of social and self-government activeness, serving well the consolidation of Poland's democracy and development.

Jaruzelski Receives Delegation of FRG Poles

LD0202053590 Warsaw PAP in English 2200 GMT 1 Feb 90

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 1—Poland's President Wojciech Jaruzelski received here today a delegation of organizations of Poles living in West Germany.

Members of the delegation, headed by Paris priest of the Polish Catholic mission in Duisburg, Father Wieslaw Zglinnicki, told the president about the activity of their organizations and about the main problems bothering the Polish community in West Germany.

It was pointed out that the 1.5-million Polish community in West Germany did not play the role which would correspond to its number and potential either in relations with Poland or in West Germany.

The president said he was convinced that Polish communities in West Germany, like those in other countries, would intensify their activity against transformations taking place in Poland.

NSF Registered 'Social and Political Formation'

AU0602122690 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1100 GMT 6 Feb 90

[Text] [Announcer] The registration procedure of the National Salvation Front [NSF] as a legal entity took place today at the Bucharest Municipal Tribunal. Mr. Ion Iliescu asked that the NSF be registered as a social and political formation of broad representation, born in the days of the December 1989 revolution. The committee assessing the application noted that legal registration conditions have been met. The application was accepted and the NSF was registered today, 6 February 1990, as an independent social and political formation, with the right to participate in the elections scheduled for 20 May 1990. This is the 26th political formation registered so far at the Bucharest Municipal Tribunal.

Here follows recorded reportage on the NSF registration procedure:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] We are now examining file No 29 concerning the registration of the NSF as a legal entity in the special register of the Bucharest Municipal Tribunal.

[Second unidentified speaker] Gentlemen, the constitutional act, the political program, the statute, statements concerning the headquarters and material means of the movement, the registration application, and the nominal list of members—all these have been submitted here. I would like to ask the gentleman from the movement's leadership and the movement's representatives, at this examination of the application for registration and for its acceptance as legal entity, to make a brief presentation in support of this application:

[Iliescu] Mr President, honored court, we are greatly honored to address ourselves to the Bucharest Municipal Tribunal—in accordance with Decree-Law No 8 of 31 December 1989 on the registration and functioning of political parties and public organizations in Romania—and to apply for the registration of the NSF as a democratic political formation of broad social representation set up in the course of the December 1989 revolution, with a view to being accepted as a legal entity.

In view of the fact that the NSF program-platform and statute stipulate that the NSF of Romania is a political movement whose goals are to establish a pluralistic and democratic system, to create a modern and efficient economy, and to promote a national cultural revival. In view of the fact that the NSF is also satisfying all other conditions stipulated by the law, and that the NSF ideals and goals comply with the legal and state order in Romania, and are based on observation of Romania's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity, we believe that our application is justified and that you will pass a decision on accepting the NSF as a legal entity. Thank you.

[First unidentified speaker] Thank you. Does anyone have something to say? Mr Prosecutor, it is your turn. Your conclusions, please.

[Second unidentified speaker] I believe that all formal and substance requirements stipulated by NSF Decree No 8 on the establishment of political parties and public organization have been met. We ask you to endorse the application and register the NSF as a legal entity in the register of the Bucharest Municipal Tribunal.

[First unidentified speaker] Thank you. The tribunal will withdraw for deliberations in connection with this application. We will return to this room to announce the decision. [brief pause] Gentlemen, after deliberations, the Bucharest Municipal Tribunal has established that all formal and substance requirements have been satisfied in connection with the registration of the NSF in the special register of the Bucharest Municipal Tribunal. The NSF thus acquires the status of legal entity, with all its inherent rights. Are there any objections?

[Second unidentified speaker] Mr President, the Prosecutor's Office has no objections to this decision.

[First unidentified speaker] Any objections from the NSF? [unintelligible voices in background] There are no objections. As of now, we ascertain that the decision is final. As we have done in the case of all political formations registered with the Bucharest Municipal Tribunal, we wish you success in your activity, which—we are sure—will be devoted to achieving the democratic goals advocated by you. Thank you. [end recording]

200 Demonstrate for Freedom of Press 4 Feb

AU0402205190 Paris AFP in English 2022 GMT 4 Feb 90

[Excerpts] Bucharest, Feb 4 (AFP)—Silviu Brucan, chief ideologist in Romania's ruling National Salvation Front [NSF], resigned from its executive council Sunday as an expected new coalition government failed to materialise. [passage omitted]

Late Sunday, no statement had been issued regarding the dissolution of the NSF which was maintaining an information blackout on its meeting the previous day. A press conference that had been scheduled for Saturday was cancelled without explanation. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile 200 students together with employees of Romanian television demonstrated Sunday outside the television station to demand freedom of the press. They carried banners criticising "false news broadcasts" and demanding the resignation of the head of the television service. The demonstrators dispersed after receiving assurances that Prime Minister Petre Roman would meet their representatives on Monday.

Peasants Party Denies Organizing Demonstration

AU0302194490 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1921 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] ROMPRES Agency has received the following information on behalf of Mr Ioan Lup, general secretary of the National Peasants Party, Christian Democratic. [NPP(CD)]:

In the course of Saturday evening, leaflets were distributed in Bucharest announcing the convening of a big demonstration on Sunday, 4 February, allegedly organized by the NPP(CD).

The NPP(CD) specifies that this is not an action organized by the NPP(CD), but an act of diversion.

We appeal not to react to this action and we declare that we are loyal to the accords concluded among all parties and the National Salvation Front.

Peasants Party Chairman Voices Policies

AU0202133590 Vienna KURIER in German 2 Feb 90 p 5

[Report on interview with Dr Corneliu Coposu, chairman of the National Peasants Party of Romania, by KURIER: "The Voters Will Abolish the Communist Party"; date and place not given—Coposu statements published between quotation marks]

[Text] On the History of the Party

"The 'Partidul National Taranesc' developed from the union of the Peasants Party with the Transylvanian National Party in 1918. From 1928 to 1933 it was the governing party. After the dictatorships of King Carol II and Ion Antonescu, an intermediate democracy followed, which ended with the establishment of the first Communist government. Party founder Maniu was sentenced to life-long imprisonment in 1947 and 300,000 members disappeared in prisons and labor camps."

On Ideology

"We see ourselves as a democratic party with a Christian orientation. We kept our name because of tradition, but our program is oriented toward workers and intellectuals. We want to implement a balanced social program and a very complex agricultural program. After the registration of our party in early January, 33,000 Bucharest citizens immediately became party members, now and we probably have 140,000 members all over the country."

On Election Chances

"We expect up to 60 percent of the votes."

On Economic Objectives

"We want a free market economy. The small peasant will receive favorable credits for modern equipment. Only if he is the master of his soil, and has the appropriate means, will profitable agriculture be secured."

On the Canceled Referendum on Capital Punishment and the Prohibition of the Communist Party

"I protested against it from the very beginning. Capital punishment cannot be reconciled with the principles of a civilized and democratic state, and ideologies cannot be abolished by a decree. In the case of the Communist Party, this will be done by the voters."

Peasants Party Platform-Program Explained

AU0302183590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1727 GMT 3 Feb 90

["Platform-Programme of the Peasants' Party of Romania"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 3/2/1990—The Platform-Programme of the Peasants' Party of Romania envisages the dissolution of producer cooperative farms, the giving of land to the people, the resettlement of all farmers, and of townfolk wishing to go into farming. They will receive two hectares per family upon request. As for the assignment of plots to towns-people, it only applies to those who are willing to come back into the countryside or who, for various reasons, are ready to go into farming. The party does not plead for a return to the relations of half a century ago, which would be impossible, anyway. To be prosperous and to be useful, a farmer should get every equipment needed in a modern agriculture and he should also boast the multifarious skills of a modern agriculturist.

The Peasants' Party of Romania suggests the change of the Constitution and the introduction into that new basic legislative act of a provision concerning the strict observance of the fundamental human rights, the liquidation of centralism and a comeback to the demand-and-offer market economy.

The Peasants' Party defends the rights of workers and students. It also provides for the granting of pensions to all former political detainees, including those taken to court on criminal-code charges. All the years those individuals spent in prison are to count as years of hard labour.

Roundtable Discusses Draft Election Bill 3 Feb

AU0302194190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1815 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 3/2/1990—A second roundtable session was held in Bucharest on Saturday, February 3, to discuss the draft new voting law. The discussions were participated in by representatives of the political groups in Romania.

The open and sincere dialogue conducted on the occasion was an opportunity for the participants to express their views on the issues included in the election bill—

the character of the respective law, in the sense that it should include norms of a constitutional nature, which are strictly necessary for the course of the elections, a dual function of the future parliament—as a constituent assembly and as a regular legislative assembly—the structure of the future parliament—bi-or unicameral, questions relative to the type of ballot and to the election of local bodies.

More on Ceausescu Aides' Trial Testimony

AU0202224290

[Editorial Report] Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian, at 2100 GMT, on 1 February, announces that this morning "the Bucharest Territorial Military Tribunal continued the proceedings of the trial of the defendants Tudor Postelnicu, Emil Bobu, Ion Dinca, and Manescu Manea charged with complicity in genocide." The announcer mentions that the prosecutor requested that the indictment of cooperation in genocide be changed into co-perpetrator of genocide. The tribunal approved the request.

Reports continue with the testimony of witnesses. The first witness, Marius Florin, active officer in the National Defense Ministry, says that he saw Postelnicu, Dinca, and the Bucharest Mayor discussing the issue of the firing at people when demonstrations continued on 22 December. They called former defense minister, Milea, but he refused to give such an order. He also saw Interior Ministry officers beating up people and loading them on trucks.

The next witness is Ion Nicolaescu, a technician, who says that he was the commander of patriotic guards in Rimnicu Vilcea and received orders to mobilize 500 people to leave for Timisoara. He describes how they left for Timisoara, where they never arrived, only to go to another town, where they then were ordered back to Rimnicu Vilcea.

The next witness is Paul Nicolescu Mizil, chairman of the Centrocoop (Consumer Goods Cooperative). He is asked about the 17 December Political Executive Committee meeting [PEC]. The witness says: "during that meeting Ceausescu never intented to resign. He repeatedly said that there are traitors and foreign spies among the PEC members. By starting discussions on the so-called resignation he wanted to discover this foreign spy. This was an argument to support his theory that there was an organized plot, which thus could lead to excuses for the tough measures of hitting the demonstrators. When Ceausescu announced his so-called resignation, a big part of the PEC members jumped from their places, screaming and shouting, and stopped Ceausescu from resigning. All four defendants jumped up from their seats and implored Nicolae Ceausescu not to leave." Asked about the fact that PEC Member Ion Coman, was ordered to return order to Timisoara, he answers that such orders had been given before the meeting and he did not have any knowledge about it. Asked whether there were PEC members who opposed Ceausescu during the meeting he says that no PEC member at the meeting opposed Ceausescu.

Another witness is Paul Nicolae, an officer. On 22 December, he was in charge of transporting the Ceausescu couple. He said: "I had to accompany the two dogs from the Spring Palace to the Central Committee headquarters," but he did not attend any discussions, so he does not know what orders had been given that night.

At the end of the hearing the prosecution requested that the indictment be changed from cooperation in genocide to co-perpetrator in genocide. The president says that the court has to think over this new aspect. The recording ends at 2147 GMT.

Then the announcer is heard saying "the next session to be held tomorrow at 0900 [0700 GMT]."

Defendants' Final Statements

AU0302155090

[Editorial Report] Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian, at 2105 GMT, on 2 February, carries a 35-minute report, which announces that "According to the sentence by the Bucharest Territorial Military Tribunal, the defendants Tudor Postelnicu, Emil Bobu, Ion Dinca, and Manea Manescu were sentenced to life imprisonment and the total confiscation of their private property for having committed genocide."

The announcer says that after the prosecutor had drawn the conclusions of the 2 February proceedings, "the defendants were permitted to make a last statement."

In his statement Tudor Postelnicu says that "I am aware of my situation", and I know that "this is the last statement from which I can benefit." "At this point and in the last seconds before you make the decision which you consider as the most just, I swear and want to confess that I firmly condemn—as I have said before—the attitude I took in the meetings of the Political Executive Committee, when the traitor Nicolae Ceausescu gave the orders and dispositions of 17 December." He continues by saying: "I did not have a dignified and firm attitude when he gave a number of dispositions, not only during the 17 December meeting, but also in the meetings of 21 and 22 December." He also deplores the "easiness" with which he "passed on Elena Ceausescu's order" to Timisoara on 19 December "in connection with sending some corpses," to Bucharest.

He then pleads for extenuating circumstances, saying that he was "appointed to this position at an age when I actually did not understand anything about this activity", since he had not done his "military service", and thus had no "military training" at all, nor did he have any "judicial knowledge." He claims that in 1979, when he asked to be relieved of his position, he was "brutally told" that he was not the one to "decide the party's cadres policy."

He concludes by saying "I feel greatly responsible for not taking an appropriate stance in the meetings of the Political Executive Committee," and then requests "clemency" in the decision on the "length of punishment I deserve for not acting as I should have acted."

Taking the floor, Emil Bobu says that he "regrets with all my being that I am involved in such a difficult trial" of "particular historic importance both at home and abroad" which has "put a halt to the odious dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu and Elena Ceausescu." He claims he had "no direct responsibilities in repressing the demonstrations," but that he had "great responsibilities" in "the important position" he held and therefore his "attitude was condemnable" because he did not "have the strength to rise against the traitors."

He then emphasizes that the court should bear in mind that in his longstanding activity he "contributed to protecting the interests of the country and of the people." In conclusion, he praises the National Salvation Front appeal to the nation, stressing that the revolution's aim was "a better and more just and humane society, without violence."

Ion Dinca begins by emphasizing that he, himself, was never involved in an "accord" between "Romania and five other states to send terrorist forces to Romania." He says that he is not against the sentence of life imprisonment and that he will not appeal. He admits his guilt and its "seriousness and the very serious implications for our people and for their history." In conclusion, he wishes the Romanian people a happy life, to be spared from any dictatorships, and success in "their noble goals."

Manea Manescu emphasizes the "democratic and free framework in which this trial of historic, national, and international importance has taken place."

He discusses the deterioration of the social-political situation in Romania in the past years, blaming it to a great extent on Elena Ceausescu's influence on "the dictator." He wishes the "workers, peasants, intellectuals, and our revolutionary youth", who "were the leaders of this struggle", such economic development as "will ensure our people's material and cultural well-being."

Then the announcer says that after the last statements by the defendants, the court withdrew for deliberations.

Roman Receives IBRD, IMF Executive Directors

AU0202191790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1804 GMT 2 Feb 90

["Interviews of Romania's Prime Minister"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 2/2/1990—Mr Petre Roman, prime minister of Romania, received Paul Arlman, executive director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and G.A. Posthumus, executive director of the International Monetary Fund. They analyzed possibilities to normalize the financial and monetary relations between Romania and these two international institutions, which had reached a deadlock in recent years.

The interview was attended by Mr Ion Patan, minister of finance, and Mr Dan Pascariu, vice-president of the Romanian Foreign Trade Bank.

Country Applies for EBRD Membership

AU0302172290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0946 GMT 3 Feb 90

["Romania and the Question of Foreign Financing"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 3/2/1990—At the inaugural conference of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD] in January 1990 a Romanian delegation applied for this country's membership of that organization with which it wants to collaborate. Details were given on the special terms in which the EBRD collaboration can start with Romania that has no foreign debt. The fact that the year 1989 recorded a markedly active trade balance is an argument in favour of increasing the imports this year, especially for meeting the population's consumption requirements without resorting to credits. Besides, unlike the other East- European countries, Romania is an IMF and World Bank member, so it can also benefit from their assistance.

The business quarters are obviously in favour of resuming and extending the economic relations with Romania. The country's taking the road of democracy and gradual liberalization in economy convinced the analysts and businessmen in the developed countries, West-European ones mainly and France particularly, that it is fit to invest capital in Romania for the establishment of lasting relations. Another immediate favourable response is the IMF executives' statement as to the granting of assistance to Romania.

No doubt, after the tremendous sacrifices the Romanian people had to make to pay off the foreign debt, now it is more necessary than ever to define a new policy of credits, to engage only in useful and economical commitments with foreign countries. However, it is not logical economically to start wide-scope projects while giving up the advantages of phased-out financial efforts, it is senseless to pay installations upon delivery when they start producing only after a few years. The foreign financing does not mean only credits. Even if limited, Romania has used so far also foreign participation in capital. The reconsideration of the whole format of operation of the joint companies and the involvement of foreign capital within limits and in forms according to the country's interests unquestionably account for means of revigoration of the economy. So, the establishment of forms and limits for the use of foreign financing in Romania's reconstruction should be among the priorities of a basically new economic policy.

[Signed] Ioan Rosca

Swiss Legal Help Requested To Recover Funds

AU0302202390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1721 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 3/2/1990—The spokesman of the Ministry of Justice in Bern, J. Kistler specified that Romania's request for legal assistance to recover the funds deposited in Swiss banks by the dictator will be relayed to the relevant authorities of the cantons. We mention that the Swiss federal authorities preventively froze, as early as 22 December 1989, all the deposits of Ceausescu and his clique until the reception of an official application from the Romanian Government.

Ceausescu Deposits Revealed

AU0502211090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1918 GMT 5 Feb 90

["In Connection With the Romanian Deposits in Switzerland"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 5/2/1990—As the EFE News Agency announces, the spokesman of the Federal Department of Justice and Police of Switzerland, Joerg Kistler, stated that the authorities of the Swiss cantons of Geneva and Basel which received Romania's request on 5 February, are going to publicize the deposits made by Ceausescu and his wife in Switzerland.

According to the Romanian emigres in that country, the deposits amount to 400 million dollars in gold.

We mention that these deposits have been frozen by the Swiss authorities since 22 December 1989.

FRG, France, Netherlands Donate Medicine, Food

AU0602105290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1001 GMT 6 Feb 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 6/2/1990 - The West German "Merck" Medicine Manufacturers with 44 branches around the world has given one million Deutsche Mark [DM] worth of medical supplies in aid to Romania, more specifically to the Bucharest city hospital. Similarly, five tons of food were donated to a school in the city's Damaroaia District and a nursing home in the district of Straulesti. Mr. Hans-Joachim Schmidt, Merck's representative in Bucharest, said more medical supplies worth 150,000 DM were donated to individuals and other hospitals with further relief being expected to arrive.

11,000 kg of clothing and medicines were sent by the Jasmijn Club of the Hague to residents of the city of Brasov. The parcels were distributed to nursing homes, auxiliary schools and sanatoria. Brasov was the destination also of 15 carloads of food, medicines and medical equipment relief dispatched by the French society Medicins Sans Frontieres.

* Shipment of Donated Food, Clothing Reported

* Red Cross Sends Aid

36130086 Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 15 Jan 90 p 5

[Article by Bo Draebel: "Danish Vehicle Convoy to Romania"]

[Text] The Danish Red Cross is sending two vehicle convoys to Romania today carrying aid donated by Danes and Danish concerns during the Christmas week and during the collection arranged by the TV stations.

Two trucks carrying soap and cleansers are leaving from Glostrup. Just as all other goods of this type, these goods were rationed and as good as impossible to get under Ceausescu's regime, and hygienic items continue to be in short supply.

The second convoy—two giant-sized trucks with approximately 30 tons of clothing and an ambulance given by Flack—is leaving from north Schleswig. The clothing is being sorted according to size and sex in Logumkloster by 20 unemployed persons, who have been working in two shifts so that the shipment will be ready.

"The Danish clothing donations are popular for the reason that the clothes are sorted," says Lasse Norregaard, press secretary for the Danish Red Cross. "Many countries and organizations have come unannounced and with unsorted clothes, and we know from experience that many of them will go to waste. This is a risk we are unwilling to take."

The Danish convoys are driving to Romania via West and East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia and the Ruse border crossing in Bulgaria in order to avoid the poor Romania roads. At the Red Cross's temporary headquarters in Ruse a decision will be made on where the vehicles with soap and cleansers designated for the hospitals will drive to. The ambulance will be taken to Bucharest.

The Danish Red Cross is planning another shipment of medicine and bandages, and a special aid program with respect to children's homes, the elderly, and the handicapped are under consideration.

In Red Cross terminology the emergency-help phase has passed in Romania. That is to say, the acute demand for aid has been covered. Now it is a question of prioritization of aid and the distribution of funds and provisions. The Red Cross is will discuss the situation at a meeting in Bucharest on 20 January. In the meeting Niels Munk, chief of the Danish Red Cross's international division will be among the participants.

* Radio-TV Training Offered

36130086 Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 15 Jan 90 p 5

[Article by Lars Ensted Garling: "Denmark's Radio and TV Will Help Romanian TV"—first paragraph is BERLINGSKE TIDENDE introduction]

[Text] A Danish-Romanian technician from DR [Danish Radio] has just returned home from a visit to Romanian radio and TV. He presented an offer of technical assistance on behalf of General Manager Hans Jorgen Jensen

Dan Popescu—a Danish-Romanian and TV technician at DR—has just returned from a week-long visit to Romania's radio and TV. He had taken with him a promise from General Manager Hans Jorgen Jensen of technical assistance for the modernization of the almost antique TV building in Bucharest. The possibility of sending Romanian TV personnel to courses in Denmark was once of the matters discussed at a meeting with the new president of the country's radio and TV, Aurel Bragos Montanu.

"TV personnel there know next to nothing about how to organize a 'democratic' TV journalism. I saw this, for example, when the French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas was interviewed—no one could hear what the man said because he was 'translated' and 'interpreted' by a speaker. That is one of the things we can teach them to avoid. Besides this, the Romanians want to learn how to provide election coverage—which they have never tried before" says Dan Popescu, who had actually worked at the TV station in the 1950's before he fled to Denmark. During the visit he noticed that the equipment, which he himself had installed is still in use.

"Strangely enough the station also has a small amount of ultramodern equipment which was purchased on orders from Nicolae Ceausescu. He complained that he looked to old on the screen but hoped for a better result via modern equipment. But it could only be used when he was to appear on TV. The rest of the time it was shut down," he said.

On Romanian radio and TV—as in other parts of the Rumanian state government—there are many "turncoats" former Ceausescu loyalist communists filling many top positions. Dan Popesco was thus extremely surprised to see that Ceausescus's specially selected commentator on foreign affairs, Eugen Prada, sits is now the head of Romanian radio.

"There is still a way to go before the revolution is over. Fortunately, the people are well aware of the situation. Much is written about these people in the media, and it is only a question of time before they are gone," says Dan Popescu.

* Question of Party 'Dissolution' Discussed

90EB0215A Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 10 Jan 90 pp 1,5

[Article by Florin-Gabriel Marculescu: "Self-Dissolution?"]

[Text] In the 31 December 1989 issue of ROMANIA LIBERA, I read a short item which announced that an initiative committee intended to organize an extraordinary congress for the purpose of dissolving the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] and transferring all its assets to the state. The news revolted me and I am convinced that many of our people share my concern.

The situation is, I admit, confusing, and consequently clarifications are needed. Can there still be talk of self-dissolution today? Whose self-dissolution? Of a party which ceased to exist on 22 December 1989? A party which, from its very inception in 1921, plotted and acted against the vital interests of reunited Romania? A party that even during the period between the two wars stirred emotions and accused our country of imperialism and colonialism, speaking out for dismembering it and returning the regions occupied by the Romanian Army? When these regions were none other than Transylvania and Bessarabia! And that was no transitory political mistake, because the above-mentioned party continued to disseminate such poisonous ideas and ended by applauding the sinister German-Soviet pact of 23 August 1939.

1944: At Most 1,000

On 23 August 1944, the date that marked the Romanian Army insurrection under King Mihai I, the RCP had at most 1,000 (one thousand) members, a derisory figure in relation to the country's population at the time. Taking full advantage of the political and military circumstances of those years, that minuscule political group did not for a moment hesitate to offer its services to invading Stalinism, once again betraying the country's interests. This time the consequences were of the most grievous and long term. With the help of foreign bayonets, the party imposed its supremacy on 6 March 1945; shortly thereafter, on 19 November 1946, it grossly falsified the results of the last "free" election organized in our country. That is what the party did to ensure its legitimacy in the eyes of the masses.

Subsequent events proceeded according to the specific pattern of Stalinist dictatorships, and a whole country still remembers the wave of terror that washed over it.

1946-64: How Many Victims?

What number of victims fell during 1946-64? Difficult to advance a precise figure. Archives of the time may still provide certain testimonies along this line, although I don't doubt that the criminals made sure they effaced their traces. But people's memories still live. How can we ever forget those veritable death plants that were the Danube-Black Sea Canal, Gherla, Aiud, Portita, Pitesti, and others? How can we ever forget the persecution unleashed against intellectuals? How can we ever forget names like Gheorghe Braileanu, Iuliu Maniu, Alexandru Lapedatu, Vasile Voiculescu, Alexandru Marcu, Lucian Blaga, C. Noica, C.C. Giurescu, and so many other writers, politicians, and scientists of international reknown who were ostracized, imprisoned, and assassinated in the name of the lofty humanistic ideals of communism? To which are added the known and unknown names of other scores of thousands of people who paid with their lives for the courage to offer the least opposition to communist crimes.

Much has been written about that obsessive decade, which in reality turned out to be much longer than 10 years. A few days ago, serene grandfather Maurer was telling us about the crimes of the Ceausescu dictatorship, but he never uttered a word about the crimes committed while His Honor was in power next to Gheorghiu-Dej. Mr. Maurer was tortured by the thought of writing a book on the errors of Marxism; he drifted among the spheres of socialist humanism and had no sources of information, had no way of knowing how many fell victims to the forced collectivization of agriculture.

1964-1965: A Quiver of Conscience

From 1962 to 1965 the RCP experienced a surprising quiver of conscience and attempted to rehabilitate itself before the long suffering people. There was talk of shedding the Soviet yoke; the ideas of independence and national sovereignty were taken out of mothballs; the enormous material damage inflicted by years of "disinterested" Soviet-Romanian economic cooperation were revealed, and the nefarious impact of the until then omnipresent "sovroms" was blamed. Political detainees were released, etc., etc. By playing the nationalist card, the party was trying to put on a new face.

1965: A 'Professional Revolutionary'

Gheorghiu-Dej died in 1965 and, with the help of gentle Mr. Maurer, his job was taken over by a young and ambitious Politburo member, the professional revolutionary Nicolae Ceausescu, the man who, at the head of the same party, later perfected methods of terror and became Romania's absolute master with unlimited and unchecked powers. The outcomes are too well known to list them again.

Throughout the years of Ceausescu dictatorship, the RCP never put up the slightest resistance to the greedy tendencies of its secretary general, nor to his disastrous ideology in all political, social, and economic areas. On the contrary, to preserve and increase their privileges, members of the nomenklatura prostituted themselves, becoming faithful executors of the instructions of the "genius" leader, conducting and orchestrating the masquerade of the most shameless personality cult. The victims of the gilded period are now known. The figures are shocking. But the genocide does not weigh only on the shoulders of the two who got their well-deserved punishment. The same accusations can be leveled against all the members of the Political Executive Committee who were, at the least, accomplices in the horrors perpetrated under our very eyes. None of them had General Milea's courage to resist, nor the minimal courage to disassociate themselves. All of them hoped that the revolution would be quelled in blood, being convinced of the superiority of the Securitate. But the united forces of the Army and the people prevailed. God was at the side of the righteous. Otherwise, mass executions would have followed and Romania would have been turned into a real bloodbath.

1965-1989: How Many Accomplices?

There can be no doubt that that is what would have happened and the RCP, who made not the least contribution to the victory of this amazing revolution, would have continued to faithfully serve its masters. But not only the members of the former Political Executive Committee—many of whom have already been arrested and will be put on trial—are to blame for the horrors of the end of 1989 and, generally speaking, for the horrors of the cruel night of the Ceausescu dictatorship. The same culpability should weigh on the consciences of all the members of the former Central Committee and those automatons who did nothing but applaud frenetically, sing praises to the leader, and chant canned slogans for minutes on end. The same culpability lies on all the party activists who were an active part of the Ceausescuzation process. And let us not forget that among the members of this party were also the Securitate men who did not hesitate to fire into the unarmed masses. Millions of testimonies can be brought in support of the above. It is sufficient to ask the miners of Valea Jiului, the inhabitants of Brasov and God; the list of places where crime became institutionalized is endless.

But to go back to our subject, namely the RCP. I claim, with all due emphasis, that this party is responsible for its own transformation into the basic tool of Ceausescu's dictatorship. Along with the Securitate, it was undoubtedly one of the essential levers of one of the most ferocious dictatorships known not only to our people, but to all mankind.

22 December 1989: The Dissolution

As a component of the power structures of the Ceausescu clan, the party was dissolved by the First Parliament of Free Romania, convened on 22 December 1989 in the Republic Square. The same Parliament approved the platform-program of the National Salvation Front [NSF] and the membership of the NSF Council, rejecting as members in this body of state power those "technicians" of the former government team who had immediately offered their services: Ilie Verdet, Ion Avram, and even the freshly arrested General Iulian Vlad. And if the Parliament gave legitimacy to the present team at the country's helm, the decision to dissolve the RCP is better off not being discussed again. This is nothing but an act of elementary civic justice.

Consequently, self-dissolution is not necessary. The RCP's dissolution has already taken place, and convening an extraordinary congress for the purposes mentioned at the beginning of this article would constitute a serious act of defiance.

We, the hundreds of thousands of students, workers, and intellectuals who, in the first hours of our revolution, metamorphized into as many rational deputies of Romania's First Parliament, request the NSF Council to henceforth draw the appropriate conclusions. What we expect is not a useless extraordinary congress of a nonexistent party, but an immediately valid decree confiscating all the assets and the huge financial means of the former party.

Within our current democracy and within a genuine political pluralism, I am not opposed, and no one can oppose the establishment of a communist party, beginning at zero like the other parties that have been or are being formed. Provided, of course, that anyone is interested and that justifications can be found for the crimes committed in the name of socialist humanism. However, the possible establishment or reestablishment of such a party must take place within the framework of current legislation and without benefit of the enormous material and propaganda advantages collected by tne former RCP from every citizen.

I would like to recapitulate my thoughts. When I condemn the former RCP I am referring to a nefarious political entity. Nothing can be farther from my mind than to condemn en masse all the 3.8 million former members of that party. I spelled out whom I consider guilty. The others—the overwhelming majority—subscribed to it out of opportunism. They were cowardly, but they, we, were all cowardly. The protesters could be counted on the fingers of two, or perhaps four hands. As Mircea Dinescu said, there may have been one dissident for every 2 million people. We have all sinned by being silent, submissive, and afraid. The salvation miracle occurred in Timisoara. The thousands of innocent victims restored our human dignity and helped many of us to come to the help of the students and young workers who had resolutely started the redeeming fires of the revolution. But the moral sores of the Communist night cannot be healed that fast. We are in favor of national reconciliation, we don't want revenge or personal account-settling, but those who actively supported Ceausescu must step down from leadership positions. The spirits will calm down only when each institution or economic enterprise is managed by unbesmirched, sound professionals, regardless of whether they were ever party members. No one should ever again be appointed to managerial positions from above. General meetings of employees must decide this democratically, i.e., by secret ballot. These are all sketchy ideas to which I intend to return, but that paranthesis was necessary.

To sum up, the RCP ceased to exist on 22 December 1989. Like other deplorable parties of the past, it should have been put on trial for the tragedies for which it was responsible. But we are content to note its dissolution and, I want to stress, we expect its huge assets to be confiscated.

Malisevo Demands Probe of Militia Attack

AU0602090590 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 1 Feb 90 p 7

[Unattributed report: "Details of the Tragedy Published—Communique From the Joint Meeting of the Executive Bodies of the Sociopolitical Authorities and State Organs of Malisevo Commune"]

[Text] We received the following communique from the commune of Malisevo yesterday:

"At about 1230 on 30 January 1990, even though there were no gatherings in the main town of the commune and the situation was quiet, an armored vehicle of the militia, escorted by two militia cars, used firearms in Malisevo on the Malisevo-Banja and Malisevo-Orahovac roads. Without any kind of reason, a hail of bullets swept to left and right, striking passers-by, craftsmen's shops, official buildings including those of the League of Communists Communal Committee and the Secretariat of Internal Affairs, the Communal Court, the Magistrate's Court, the Health Center, the elementary and high schools, and private houses on the roadside.

"As well as in the communal center, this also occurred in other villages of the commune such as Banja and Ostrozub.

"As a result of this attack, according to assessments, three persons have died to date, while the number of those injured is as yet unknown, although very large. Unofficial reports state that the cause of the Malisevo attack may have been the alleged wounding of a member of the militia unit by an unknown person, nine kilometers away from the communal center. This incident has been strongly condemned and there have been demands for it to be investigated, but we consider such vengeance in the communal center and the surrounding villages to violate all the social and state regulations of the SFRY. On the basis of the still incomplete assessments of the executive bodies of the state and sociopolitical authorities of Malisevo Commune, the following conclusion has been adopted: What happened in Malisevo is a tragedy unprecedented in the history of the SFRY. The center of Malisevo and surrounding villages were attacked by terrorists and criminals, in which category we do not consider the employees of the SFRY internal affairs organs to fall. All the authorities, working people, and citizens of Malisevo Commune strongly condemn this incident with profound indignation. We demand the urgent creation of a federal commission to come to the scene of the incident and investigate the tragedy that occurred in Malisevo. We have taken the decision to send this communique to all the sociopolitical and state authorities of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo, the Socialist Republic of Serbia, and the SFRY," states the communique issued yesterday by the joint meeting of the executive bodies of the sociopolitical authorities and state organs of Malisevo Commune.

Citizens Protest Militia Actions

AU0602090790 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 1 Feb 90 p 7

[A.B. report: "Protest Gatherings Held"]

[Text] Malisevo, 31 Jan—The situation is very serious in Malisevo again today. No work was done in enterprises, but protest gatherings were held in order to express indignation at yesterday's tragic incident. A huge crowd of people could be seen in the center of Malisevo; people circulated and told each other what they had seen on the previous day. A protest gathering was held in the hall of the sociopolitical authorities this morning and was also attended by employees from the Communal Court, the Magistrate's Court, the Health Center, and all other communal bodies. The assembled citizens honored the innocent victims with one minute's silence. The workers at this gathering decided to send a telegram to all the republican and federal presidiums, demanding that the culprits of this very serious incident should be identified at once.

In the center of Malisevo, people signed the declaration of the Association for a Yugoslav Democratic Initiative and the Committee for Human Rights. By 1300, 7,000 people had signed. They then also signed the protest to the SFRY Presidency, the Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, and the Kosovo League of Communists Provincial Committee over the tragic incident. By 1300, 6,000 people had signed this protest.

There were many Yugoslav and foreign journalists in the communal center today.

At midday, Hysni Abdullah Mazrreku (1973), a pupil at the 17 November High School, was buried in the Malisevo Cemetery. About 30,000 citizens attended the ceremony. Wreaths of flowers were laid on his grave.

Rexhe Kastrati, president of the Malisevo League of Communists [LC] Communal Committee, held a news conference for Yugoslav and foreign journalists at the LC Communal Committee building. He and other leaders talked about the tragic incident and the way in which it happened, and journalists asked many questions.

Commission Investigates

LD0202201690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1921 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] Pristina, 2 Feb (TANJUG)—A federal commission visited Malisevo today to obtain an on-the-spot report and establish the truth about the circumstances under which three people from this place lost their lives in clashes between demonstrators and the police two days ago.

The people of Malisevo and all sociopolitical bodies protested against this incident, believing that the police transgressed their duties on this occasion. A delegation from Malisevo, as reported, briefed Hiseni Kajdomcaj, president of Kosovo Presidency, on this yesterday.

The delegation was today also received by Janez Drnovsek, President of the SFRY Presidency, who is on a visit to Pristina.

Police Reinforcements Arrive in Serbia

LD0202224390 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1955 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Text] Pristina, Feb 2 (TANJUG)—Some 2,000 policemen arrived in the province of Kosovo during the night and today to reinforce the units which have for eleven days been active in containing unrest by ethnic Albanian separatists. The reinforcements were sent by the Interior Secretariat of the Republic of Serbia, on whose territory the province lies.

The fresh police units are tasked with preserving law and order in Kosovo settlements with a population of Serbs and Montenegrins, who have for a long time being terrorized by ethnic Albanian separatists and chauvinists.

The reinforcements have eased the fortunes of the non-Albanian population, especially Serbs and Montenegrins, who have for decades been emigrating from the province, fleeing persecution by ethnic Albanians.

Twenty persons have lost their lives in clashes with police forces over the past eleven days, and the many incidents between demonstrators on the one side and Serbs and Montenegrins on the other threaten to turn into serious armed strife.

Kosovo Democratic Alliance Appeals for Dialogue

AU0502210590 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 1 Feb 90 p 6

[Unattributed report: "Appeal for Dialogue"]

[Text] The Kosovo Democratic Alliance issued this statement yesterday:

"The dramatic circumstances in Kosovo require immediate steps to pacify the complicated situation and to solve the problems of Kosovo. The Kosovo Democratic Alliance, vitally interested in an equal and common life for all those who live in Kosovo and in the general development of the processes of reform and democratization that have also been stressed in the SFRY Presidency's statement, directs this appeal to all those active in political life in Kosovo, the Socialist Republic [SR] of Serbia, and Yugoslavia.

"Democratic dialogue is a general demand in Kosovo and the only way to objectively analyze and solve Kosovo's problems.

"We invite all those active in political life in Kosovo, all alternative currents and groups, the relevant provincial authorities, and all other interested persons to an open, equal, and unconditional dialogue, without preconditions and other restrictions, on current issues concerning the present state of Kosovo and its further development.

"We appeal to the SFRY Presidency, the Federal Executive Council [FEC], and the relevant authorities of the SR of Serbia and other political bodies in the country to support and assist this invitation to dialogue.

"Any avoidance or postponement of this dialogue could have serious consequences for which we will all bear moral and political responsibility."

This appeal was sent to the SFRY Presidency, the FEC, the Presidency of the SR of Serbia, the Presidency of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo, the Kosovo Assembly Executive Committee, the Presidium of the Kosovo Socialist Alliance of Working People Provincial Conference, the Presidium of the Kosovo League of Communists Provincial Committee, alternative associations, and the media.

There can and will be dialogue on democracy and deepening equality when conditions permit. This readiness and aim has been stressed many times in recent days by the highest forums of the country's political and state leadership. The highest forum of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia also stated itself to be in favor of political pluralism and democracy when it abandoned the monopoly guaranteed by the Constitution. However, the Kosovo Democratic Alliance, too, should realize that there are no conditions or opportunities for democratic dialogue with wisdom and humane political toleration under the serious circumstances created by the mass gatherings and street demonstrations with their tragic consequences. We therefore think that the Kosovo Democratic Alliance, if it is organized for democratic purposes, should call on the people and on all peoples and nationalities, especially the Albanian nationality, not to fall into nationalist traps, and should call for reason and wisdom to prevail among the people, for people to leave the streets, for the demonstrations to be stopped, and for people to turn to peace, a quiet life, labor, and their studies, because this is the only way in which there can be the prospect of the democratic construction of society.

There can be no question of dialogue, even on this occasion, with enemies and Albanian nationalists and separatists, even when they disguise themselves under the cloak of democracy. The Kosovo Democratic Alliance must also raise its voice against the Albanian nationalists.

FEC Statement Says Kosovo 'Calmer'

LD0302145190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1408 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Belgrade, 3 Feb (TANJUG)—The operational body of the Federal Executive Council [FEC] has announced that the security situation in the province is still very difficult but under the control of the authorized federal, republican, and provincial organs, and that there are obvious signs of the situation becoming calmer.

Every measure has been taken to protect the personal and material safety of all citizens in Kosovo, especially Serbs and Montenegrins, which has been successful.

The FEC notes that in this situation it is very important—apart from maintaining public peace and order—to prevent demonstrations in other parts of Yugoslavia that cause tension to rise and provoke incidents.

Special emphasis was laid on the important role of the public information media in such a difficult situation, whose objective coverage can considerably contribute to stabilizing the situation or have the opposite effect.

No Protests Reported

LD0302134290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1105 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Pristina, 3 Feb (TANJUG)—Last night in Kosovo was calmer than the previous 10 or so. This is the result of an even stronger presence of the security forces.

Today many Kosovo collectives are not working, but the number of stoppages is far less than in previous days. In a number of collectives, the workers are on collective holidays because the management felt that this was more rational than the workers rallying in the factories or striking, and even clashing on national bases.

This morning no demonstrations have been reported in Kosovo.

Demonstrations Dispersed

LD0302161690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1538 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Pristina, 3 Feb (TANJUG)—After hour-long demonstrations in Podujevo, the security organs have dispersed several hundred participants in today's unrest in this town.

There were also attempts to stage demonstrations in Pristina, where about 200 Albanians gathered, but they were foiled.

People also gathered in lesser numbers in Suva Reka and some other villages in the province. Tension and anxiety are thus still in evidence in Kosovo.

The Yugoslav Air Force's fighters flew several times over Pristina while units of the Yugoslav People's Army moved through several towns in the province today.

Kosovo Opposition Protests Police 'Revenge'

LD0302174890 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1238 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Pristina, 3 Feb (TANJUG)—The combined Kosovo alternative movement today sent a lengthy letter to the Federal Executive Council [FEC], a copy of which was also sent to the SFRY Presidency. The letter states that they support the stands of the federal government but expect it "to take specific steps toward the start of a dialogue between its representatives and the signatories of the declaration for democracy against violence, that is the coordinators of the political alternative movement, as soon as possible."

The letter in particular notes the tragic situation in Kosovo, which is worsening dramatically, not only, as it states, "because of the initial method of demonstrating in the streets of the province, but also because of the uncontrolled activity of individual and police forces, which can be categorized as the classic pattern of state terrorism."

The four-page letter goes on to cite "classic examples" of "taking revenge in blood," for which it says photographic and written evidence exists, and that the "police interventions and victims of these interventions are not a result of the execution of tasks to ensure order and peace, but of cases of massacre and reprisal against the innocent civilian population."

The Kosovo political alternative considers that the present serious situation "acquired the dimensions of rebellion precisely in many of the said terrorist actions by police units." It even claims that the majority of the population in Kosovo presently is living in complete insecurity, not only because of the demonstrations but primarily, as they say, because of what looks more like "death squads" or "punitive expeditions to pacify Kosovo" than actions to reestablish order and peace through a law-governed state."

In the letter to the FEC, the representatives of the combined Kosovo alternative call for "strict, public, and urgent orders" from the Federal Secretariat for Internal Affairs to stop the use of firearms by members of the militia and the formation of an assembly commission. Together with an independent commission of the committees for human rights of the republics and provinces, the commission would investigate "the Podujevo case and issue an order for Army units to refrain from the use of force against citizens."

Kosovo Schoolchildren's Holiday Extended

LD0302163190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1610 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Pristina, 3 Feb (TANJUG)—The Executive Council of the Kosovo Assembly has decided to extend the winter holidays for primary and secondary schools in the province until 8 February.

The decision was made because of the difficult security situation and the fact that a number of pupils of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality are, as a result of this, outside the province.

Potrc Addresses Federal Assembly Session

LD0202191190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1045 GMT 2 Feb 90

["Miran Potrc introductory report at Federal Chamber session"—TANJUG headline]

[Text] Belgrade, 2 Feb (TANJUG)—Miran Potrc first noted that the SFRY Assembly and the republican and provincial assemblies are becoming the most important and the only places for the adoption of laws, the consideration of political issues, and the establishment of policies. A joint discussion about all proposals is a significant contribution toward consolidation of such a status of the assemblies. This is the only way to give equal consideration to all proposals and for all republican and provincial assemblies to adopt stands about the mentioned proposals in equal periods of time. This would facilitate coupling works on the proposed and the draft amendments, so that already at this stage of the process of the constitutional changes solutions that could ensure progress and a more stable situation in Yugoslavia could be reached through consensus and agreement among everyone.

When explaining the 26 proposed changes to the SFRY Constitution, Potrc said that the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia wants to ensure the freedom of political association and full equality, without the leading League of Communists role and the especialy enshrined Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia role in the Constitution, the full equality of all forms of ownership, equality in management and appropriation of results of work, lifting the upper limit on agricultural and forest plots, free self-managing organization, and so on.

Among significant changes to the Constitution, Potrc cited the end of ideological orientation regarding the role of the working class, the affirmation of the contents of human and civil rights and liberties, the strengthening of the independence of courts, the abolition the regulation regarding court appointments for specific periods of time, and other matters.

Another new option is that the normative part of the SFRY Constitution stipulates that socialist republics are states within the SFRY on the basis of permanent, inseparable and inalienable right of every nation to self-determination, including the right to secession, as well as strengthens the influence of the republican and provincial assemblies in regard to issues that, according to the majority of delegates, are of general importance for a particular republic or autonomous province. Slovenia proposes also a federal fund for financing speedier development of the economically undeveloped republics and autonomous provinces, and that the volume and forms of criteria for and supervision over the use of funds is determined by republics and autonomous provinces. It insists that the SFRY Constitution determines the authority of the SFRY Assembly, grounded in agreements between assemblies of the republics and autonomous provinces, in proclaiming the state of emergency and the use of special measures that are not the results of war or immediate danger of war.

Through these proposals we want to create, Potrc said, grounds for a more consistent affirmation of the economic reform proposed by the Federal Executive Council, for constitutional opportunities for political reforms, for strengthening human and civil rights and liberties, as well as the status of republic and its role and responsibility for determining common interests in the federation.

Without respect for human rights, without political freedom and equality, economic reform cannot be successful. As a result of our own findings and developments in Europe and world, we regard these as an opportunity to emerge from the crisis, Potrc stressed, adding that it is beyond doubt that relations within the federation have to be changed substantially.

We in Slovenia are convinced that everything should be done on creating more favorable conditions for tolerant and democratic talks about future relations with the federation. We hold that the following are also very important: independence of all economic subjects and clean accounts between republics and provinces with the agreed volume of necessary solidarity but without the possibility of incomes being transferred and sharing bad business results, Potrc stressed.

Serbia's Trifunovic on Kosovo, Congress Break

AU0302175490 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] The events in Kosovo are a kind of peculiar pressure on the Socialist Republic of Serbia to drop its policy in Kosovo. This was said in Kraljevo by Bogdan Trifunovic, president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Serbia, at a meeting with the political and economic aktiv today. Let us hear a report by Rasko Djordjevic:

Serbia and Yugoslavia are going through great dangers that justifiably cause concern among people, but the events in Kosovo, the adjournment of the 14th Extraordinary Congress of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, political clashes and differences in the country, and serious economic difficulties have contributed the most to this. This was said, among other things, by Bogdan Trifunovic, president of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Serbia, during his visit and talks with the political and economic aktiv of the Kraljevo region today.

Kosovo is the greatest problem of Serbia and Yugoslavia. It is a problem that has been irresolvable for many people who have viewed this part of the territory of Serbia and the country as lost. This is not so and it cannot remain like this, Trifunovic said. He continued:

[Begin Trifunovic recording] It is, in fact, a matter of maximum pressure being exerted on the Socialist Republic of Serbia so that it will drop its policy both in Kosovo and in general, even at the price of loss of life and even civil war in Kosovo. The Socialist Republic of Serbia will not give up Kosovo at any price. [end recording]

This is no longer the time when political forums should explain in their stances what is going on in which way. Political reaction in Serbia has demonstrated that people have realized what is happening in Kosovo and how the 14th Extraordinary Congress of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia ran and why it was interrupted. Trifunovic went on to stress in this connection:

[Begin Trifunovic recording] The walkout at the congress did not occur because an amendment had not been adopted or because some amendments to the declaration were outvoted, but because people went to the congress with a clear, strategic decision that they would walk out and that they would not remain in this organization unless it was accepted to be as some people proposed. [end recording]

The continuation of the present situation is against the interests of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and against this country, for any delay in continuing the congress destroys the bridges of agreement, Bogdan Trifunovic said. He added in conclusion:

[Begin Trifunovic recording] All of this about Kosovo, all of these separatist pressures that are growing into an armed rebellion, all of these clashes within the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, as well as the interruption of the 14th congress, not to speak of other difficulties, should not divert us now from our great ongoing work. We should not forget what we designate with the word reform, and that cannot wait a single day. [end recording]

During his working visit to the Kraljevo region today, Bogdan Trifunovic, president of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Serbia, visited the Magnohrom plant and had talks with the workers and the management of this large enterprise.

Chamber Gives 'Green Light' to Initiatives

LD0302183290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1140 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 2 Feb (TANJUG)—At today's session of the SFRY Assembly's Federal Chamber, the first stage of the constitutional changes in Yugoslavia was set in motion. Delegates of this assembly chamber gave a "green light" to all the initiatives up until now "verified" for setting in motion the changes to the SFRY Constitution: The initiatives of the Federal Executive Council [FEC], the Assembly of the Socialist Republic [SR] of Slovenia, and the Assembly of the SR of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

These proposals will be immediately sent to the assemblies of the republics and provinces, which should formulate their stands on them by 18 February. When their "replies" come, the SFRY Assembly's Federal Chamber will pass its decision to set in motion the procedure for the changes to the SFRY Constitution, according to the degree of agreement the "constitutional packages" will have received.

Although the session was convened at the demand of the FEC to consider the FEC's proposal—on initiating changes to the SFRY Constitution—the chamber, nevertheless, added another two initiatives for constitutional changes and the No. 1 Yugoslav problem—Kosovo—to today's agenda. Thus, the proposals for the constitutional changes by two republic assemblies—Slovenia's and Bosnia-Hercegovina's—were treated, as it was expected, in the same way in the course of the "revision" of the country's highest legal document. As for the report on the situation in Kosovo—this was placed on the agenda by life itself, while formally this had been demanded by several committees and delegates of the Yugoslav Assembly. [TANJUG take 2 not received]

The second part of the session began with a report on the current political and security situation in Kosovo presented by Aleksandar Mitrovic, FEC vice-president.

There is no question that is more serious and complex for our country than Kosovo. The FEC itself would have proposed to inform the Assembly today had not the delegates done so. The FEC has been in session around the clock, monitoring the situation, proposing necessary measures and overseeing their implementation, Mitrovic stressed.

He also informed the delegates that a team had been formed within the FEC, headed by President Ante Markovic and comprising both vice presidents of the FEC, the federal secretaries for national defense, internal and foreign affairs, and the FEC secretary general. Replying to the demand of some of the delegates that Federal Secretary for Internal Affairs Petar Gracanin and Federal Secretary for National Defense Veljko Kadijevic attend the session, Mitrovic explained that Gracinin would arrived late since he had to attended an LCY [League of Communists] Central Committee Presidium session. Kadijevic and a group of generals are at their command positions, Mitrovic said, stressing that President of the SFRY Presidency Janez Drnovsek was in Kosovo today.

The situation in Kosovo over the past days has been worse and more complex than last March. The movements are not more numerous but they are more vigorous, something that, in Mitrovic's opinion, should be attributed to the changes in the country and outside it. Therefore, the consequences might have been even more serious.

Regimes are falling apart around us, socialism is disappearing from the political scene, parliamentary democracy is emerging. We in the country are embarking on comprehensive reform, both political and economic, political pluralism and a reform of the state. The 14th LCY Congress was also adjorned. The enemies "counted on" all these implications and activated their forces. The movement of separatist forces is an attempt to directly tear Yugoslavia apart, overthrow the system and secede Kosovo from Serbia and Yugoslavia, Mitrovic stressed. [passage omitted]

Separatists wanted to bring about an armed uprising and direct conflict with Serbian and Montenegrin people and security members through violence and destruction, as well as through terrorist actions. They were armed and had at their disposal a considerable arsenal of weapons, warned Aleksandar Mitrovic. [passage omitted on call for restoration of communications in Kosovo that were cut off during the rioting]

Mitrovic said: Events took place with considerable speed and organization but, I repeat, they did not have a mass character like last March and did not lead to a general strike. Between 15,000 and 30,000 people took part in demonstrations. [passage omitted on Mitrovic reassuring delegates that there is a sufficient number of security members in Kosovo who are defending every threatened house and family; the FEC meets every day and there are continual communications with Serbian and Kosovo governments]

We have achieved full coordination with the executive councils of Serbia and Kosovo and all steps are taken jointly, continued Mitrovic. The Kosovo Executive Council has established all contacts with municipalities and leaderships since Wednesday [31 January], as well as with populated places in the province. We are striving to establish dialogue with the masses, because the majority of Albanian nationals are not separatist-oriented. [passage omitted]

The Army has been present in Kosovo all the time, in the barracks, and its degree of readiness is complete. It is fully trained, large in number, and equipped with the most modern technology and weapons. It did not leave the barracks because we did not want any physical contact between Army members and demonstrators, convinced that the security forces could solve the situation.

Since yesterday the Yugoslav People's Army is carrying out its regular duties, that is exercises outside barracks, which it will continue to do, stressed the FEC vice president. [passage omitted: there is a well-organized system of measures that are implemented depending on the daily situation; the situation has been gradually becoming calmer and there is now a need to prepare a special program of socioeconomic development for the province in which Serbian and Kosovo Governments would take part together with the FEC, says Mitrovic in conclusion]

The latest demonstrations in Kosovo, which began on 23 January, are aimed at changing the overall policy of the country toward separatist attempts of this province to secede from Serbia and Yugoslavia and to become part of a so-called Greater Albania. Slogans on democracy and pluralism are used on these occasions, as well as invitations to bloodshed. This was stated today by Petar Gracanin, federal secretary for internal affairs, who briefed delegates in the Federal Chamber on the report on the involvement of the security forces in preventing hostile activities in the province.

There has been a change in the tactics of Albanian separatists who in smaller groups "thin out" the security forces and provoke them by the use of firearms. The aim is to create tension and a feeling of being threatened not only among Serbs and Montenegrins and other non-Albanian people, but also among Yugoslav-oriented Albanians. A psychosis is being built up in the province of a situation before war, night guards are being set up in villages, and Serbs and Montenegrins are sending their women and children to other parts of Yugoslavia.

The separatists are spreading rumors about the alleged brutality of the internal affairs' organs. They claim there has been a considerably larger number of victims than there really were. For this reason, the authorized organs will examine every single case of death and injury because truth is always the best weapon, stressed Petar Gracanin. In his words, 20 demonstrators were killed and several dozen injured in demonstrations. Among members of the security forces, several dozen were injured. There are several work stoppages in the province, even in the organizations where compulsory work order was imposed and in some places "silent" strikes are under way.

In the past few days, extremists from the well-known group led by Vojislav Seselj and Vuk Draskovic tried to take advantage of the situation for infiltrating a fascist concept in solving the Kosovo drama. Legal measures have been taken against a number of their followers. [passage omitted on various gatherings recalled]

Speaking about the activity of the joint units of the Federal Secretariat for Internal Affairs, Petar Gracanin stressed their unity, regardless of the base they had been sent from. Looking after the personal and material security of citizens, they carry out their tasks in the atmosphere of highest psychological and physical tension.

According to Gracanin's assessments, the separatist forces in Kosovo maintain that—due to a lack of unity in Yugoslavia—it is their one chance in history to overthrow the Yugoslav policy on Kosovo and to make an international issue of this problem.

We can have a dialogue, but not with an enemy. For this reason we need—apart from vigorous action by state organs—wisdom and resolve to improve the existing situation, said Gracanin in conclusion. [passage omitted]

At the end of his speech, Stane Brovet announced that the federal secretary for national defense would soon address delegates in the SFRY Assembly. Yugoslav Assembly President Slobodan Gligorijevic called a session of both chambers of the Yugoslav Assembly for February 7. He said Yugoslav State Presidency President Janez Drnovsek will address the Assembly. He will speak about the political and security situation in the country and about the measures to calm the situation in Kosovo.

The Federal Chamber also adopted conclusions in connection with the FEC report on the current political and security situation in Kosovo that was prepared by two Assembly committees—for internal policy and for national defense. The Federal Chamber, it is quoted in the conclusions, demands from all authorized organs in the country, including the SFRY Presidency, to immediately use all available means to prevent the activity and violent and destructive behavior of Albanian separatists and terrorists in Kosovo. This is necessary to ensure a peaceful life for everybody, especially Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo, it is emphasized in this document.

Slovene Democratic Alliance on Kosovo Program

LD0302204190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1420 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 3 Feb (TANJUG)—The Council of the Slovene Democratic Allinance has sent a letter to the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo in which it expresses support for the efforts of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo and its program for solving the "political crisis in Kosovo."

"We are convinced that a solution to the crisis can only be possible in a democratic situation in which human rights and civil freedoms are respected, which at the same time means the inclusion of all parties in a democratic dialogue," it is stated in the letter that was passed on to the TANJUG editorial board in Ljubljana.

Army LCY Group Blames Albanians in Kosovo

LD0302204290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1353 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Belgrade, 3 Feb (TANJUG)—At a session today of the Yugoslav Peoples' Army [JNA] League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Organization Committee Presidium, this organization's draft assessments and stands were considered in the wake of adjourning the work of the 14th Extraordinary LCY Congress. At its next session, the LCY Organization Committee in the JNA will put forward its attitude towards the draft asessments and stands following consultations with the membership and delegates of the 14th Extraordinary LCY Congress.

The Presidium also considered the latest events in Kosovo and concluded that Albanian nationalists and separatists had taken advantage of the adjournment of the 14th Extraordinary LCY congress, the publicly expressed differences in the attitudes toward the situation and processes in Kosovo, and the disunity at implementing the adopted policy for Kosovo, by using this as a pretext for the latest destructive and terrorist anti-Yugoslav actions.

Albanian nationalists and separatists have once again demonstrated that their principal aim is to drive the Serbs and Montenegrins out of Kosovo, to form an ethnically pure territory, to take over power by force, to create an Albanian state on the soil of Yugoslavia, and to secede a part of the country's territory by force in order to create the so-called Greater Albania.

The Communists and other members of the Army support all the measures and activities undertaken by the SFRY Presidency and the FEC [Federal Executive Council] and advocate the decisive defeat of all those forces in Kosovo and elsewhere who are intent on breaking up Yugoslavia as a federal community of equal nations and nationalities, as well as a socialist-oriented and democratic community. Just as they have hitherto been doing, members of the JNA will continue to consistently and determinedly execute their tasks and duties, it was stated at the session.

During the debate, a letter of thanks was mentioned that Ciril Ribicic, president of the Slovene League of Communists Central Committee Presidium, sent to, among others, Petar Simic and the delegates of the LCY organization in the Army at the 14th Extraordinary LCY Congress. On that occasion, it was pointed out that the delegates of the JNA had supported the proposal for an adjournment on the basis of their principles, bearing in mind the need to adopt all measures to preserve unity among Yugoslav Communists, and not because they agreed with all the stands of the delegation of the Slovene LC or with their move when they walked out of the congress. Therefore, Ciril Ribicic's letter of thanks is rejected and regarded as being unacceptable, it was said in the debate.

'Croat Democratic Community' on Kosovo Effects

LD0302212790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1822 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Excerpts] Slavonski Brod, 3 Feb (TANJUG)—We suggest to the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Croatia that it prevent by all legal and political means the policy making Croatia resemble Kosovo and to stop contributing all solidarity funds from Croatia in the wake of the economic and political attacks on AVNOJ [Antifascist Council for the National Liberation of Yugoslavia]-based Yugoslavia. This was stressed, among other things, in the final statement of the founding assembly of the Croat Democratic Community, held in Slavonski Brod today. [passage omitted] In this context, it is suggested to the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Croatia that it should adopt the decision on withdrawing the Croat units of the Secretariat for Internal Affairs from Kosovo because their service to the policy of violence in Kosovo is undesirable, it was said at the assembly.

It is also demanded that the LC [League of Communists] organizations be disbanded in all state organs, the Yugoslav Peoples' Army, the judiciary, the Secretariat for Internal Affairs, education, health service, and work organizations, in order, as it was said, to create the preconditions for the functioning of a law-governed state.

Bosnia-Hercegovina Decides To Adjourn

AU0502120490 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 24 Jan 90 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Meeting of the delegates from Bosnia-Hercegovina: break, but not an end"]

[Text] The forebodings that unfortunately were present from the beginning of the 14th Extraordinary League of Communists of Yugoslavia Congress have come true. What are we now to do?

In this way, Nijaz Durakovic opened a meeting of the delegates of the League [LC] of Communists of Bosnia-Hercegovina and immediately suggested, as it was decided at the 10th Congress of the LC of Bosnia-Hercegovina, that the 10th Congress of the LC of Bosnia-Hercegovina be reconvened with the previous delegates and that it take a stand on the situation in which the League of Communists of Yugoslavia has landed. The 14th congress cannot be legitimate because the delegates of the LC of Slovenia have walked out, not to speak about the situation if the delegates of Croatia also leave. Petar Gosev told me that the delegates of the LC of Macedonia are thinking in similar terms, Durakovic said. He added: "This means there is no congress, but this does not mean that it is being dissolved."

After a brief discussion, it was assessed that one should beware of improvisations, that the 14th Congress should be temporarily adjourned, and that the 10th Congress of the LC of Bosnia-Hercegovina should be reconvened, but that the present League of Communists of Yugoslavia leadership retains its legitimacy because it has not been discharged.

Within this general position of the delegates of the LC of Bosnia-Hercegovina, speeches by Mico Carevic and Raif Dizdarevic attracted attention:

Mico Cerevic:

"The LC of Bosnia-Hercegovina, you all know, will not allow the League of Communists of Yugoslavia to split up. We will go to our congress, but we know in advance that we will not obtain agreement to the splitting of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. Although we had known that this process cannot be stopped, we thought that we avoided a split when the Slovenes agreed to a discussion of the declaration. Nevertheless, the Slovene walkout should not be considered a catastrophe."

Raif Dizdarevic:

"Yugoslavia is being destroyed. I will not participate in any decision in the future that destroys the bridges between us and Yugoslavia. The decision was taken by the comrades from Slovenia, but this is something that is the fault of all of us. A general disorientation will prevail in the country. Let us beware of sounding triumphant. I was terribly shocked by the decision and the walkout by the Slovenes from the hall, as well as the applause to the dissolution of the LCY. I am dumbfounded. I feel like crying."

Demos Program for Slovenia Viewed

AU0502220890 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 28 Jan 90 p 3

[Jovan Pjevic report: "Demos Against Markovic"]

[Text] Since the 60-year-old Dr Joze Pucnik assumed the leadership of the Social-Democratic Party of Slovenia and created a "united opposition" from "five alternative alliances and groups" under the name of Demos, with himself at the head, official Slovene policitics (more precisely, the League of Communists [LC] and the Socialist Alliance, which have "transformed" themselves into political parties [stranke]) have acquired a serious and dangerous competitor and rival in the struggle for power in the forthcoming multiparty elections for the Assembly.

Dr. Pucnik has within a very short time shown himself to be an energetic and successful opposition leader. This is a man who graduated in philosophy and world literature from the Ljubljana Philosophy Faculty in 1958 and who, because of his articles in which he criticized official agricultural policy, was sentenced to nine years imprisonment, of which he served seven. Following his release from prison, he was unable to find employment in Slovenia, and left Yugoslavia as a migrant worker. He graduated and received his doctorate in sociology in the FRG, where he became a university professor at Lueneburg. A few months ago, he returned permanently to Slovenia and committed himself to founding the Social-Democratic Party and uniting and organizing the "united opposition."

The political program for which Pucnik and Demos are fighting coincides at only two points with the programmed aims of the (new) LC and the Socialist Alliance of Slovenia, and that is in their demand for the abolition of the one-party system and the introduction of multiparty democracy (which has already in practice been legally sanctioned on the initiative and with the support of the LC) and the establishment of a law-governed Slovene state. In all other respects and in all key questions, especially regarding the future sociopolitical order and still more the status of the Slovene state within the framework of Yugolavia (and Europe), the differences between them are very deep and, at least so far, insurmountable. In contrast to the LC, which supports "democratic socialism" and rejects a priori any repudiation of the idea of a multiethnic Yugoslav federal community or any view that the future of the Slovene people lies outside a Yugoslavia of such a kind, Dr. Pucnik and his Demos advocate a purely capitalist sociopolitical system and a totally separate and independent Slovene state.

It is true that they have so far advocated a confederation, but only as a temporary solution that will help the Slovene state join the European community and the imminent "European confederation of free, independent, and sovereign peoples." Within the framework of the Yugoslav community, Dr. Pucnik and his coalition partners think, Slovenia would have its own currency, its own independent army, its own completely separate legal system and administration, its own foreign policy, and so forth. Thus, it would only formally be a member of such a confederation, and would in fact act totally separately and independently, because, in the view of Dr. Dimitrije Rupel, the chief ideologist of the "united opposition," there are now only three empires in Europe—the Soviet Union in the East, Yugoslavia in the south, and Great Britain in the West. Of them, he claims, Yugoslavia is "doubtless the heir to imperialist national policy and in many respects itself an imperialist creation."

Demos has advocated "a peaceful transition to a multiparty system," that Slovenia, "within the Republic of Slovenia's existing territorial borders," should join the European Community, that "the Republic of Slovenia should be a neutral, demilitarized, and peace-loving state," and so forth. At the same time, Dr. Pucnik and his Demos state that they "are not in favor of revanchism and revenge, but are for peace and reconciliation with the past, not fresh denunciations and execrations," and that "all postwar crimes must be investigated and judged by an independent court."

In this way, they seek to reassure many Slovenes who remember the tragic fratricidal conflicts during the last war and immediately after it and are afraid of something similar happening again.

However, Dr. Pucnik and his coalition partners at the same time announce that "the opposition will not be indulgent toward the mistakes committed in the last two years by the Slovene state and political leadership, who by their insipidity and indecisiveness have weakened the vitality and identity of the Slovene people." This refers not only to the acceptance of the amendments to the SFRY Constitution in 1988, which they consider a betrayal of the interests of the Slovene people, but also Ante Markovic's most recent anti-inflation program.

"We will feel the consequences of having adopted the federal amendments for a long time," Dr. Pucnik says. "This also goes for the adoption of Markovic's economic program with its attempts to rescue the irretrievable AVNOJ [Antifascist Council for the National Liberation of Yugoslavia] federation and its myths that are harmful to the Slovene economy. I state here that, on the eve of the first free elections in postwar Slovenia, they are squandering billions of Slovene money and are shouldering legal responsibilities for the losses of others. This is the limit of our patience. I propose that the newly elected Slovene Assembly should form a committee to investigate this scandal and establish individual accountability. For us, squandering other people's money is a criminal matter."

If this is the name they give to decisions democratically made by the legitimate Slovene Assembly, and "individual responsibility" is sought for them, then a "settling of accounts" cannot be ruled out, nor can revanchism of any kind, whatever the leaders of Demos may announce in their preelectoral spider's web.

Kosovo SAWP Condemns Alternative Movements

AU0602104590 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 31 Jan 90 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Stands of the Presidium of the Kosovo Alliance of Working People Provincial Conference on Alternative Movements"]

[Text] Bearing in mind the fact that, in the territory of Kosovo as well, various associations, alliances, and councils have recently been formed whose programs do not contribute to the further democratization of political processes and the stabilization of the situation in Kosovo, the Presidium of the Socialist Alliance of Working People [SAWP] Provincial Conference, after debating the significance and aims of these associations, has adopted the following stands:

1. The fundamental characteristic of all these programs is that they grow out of national soil and fail to bring citizens of all peoples and nationalities together, but sow hatred, increase divisions, and further exacerbate the already disturbed interethnic relations in Kosovo.

2. The democratic climate created in Kosovo, which was in fact initiated by the League of Communists and other progressive forces in the province, has been exploited by these so-called parties for the illegal creation of groups and the spread of ideas they call democratic. They have used democracy as a cloak for their own dark purposes, aimed against the brotherhood, unity, and togetherness of the members of all our peoples and nationalities.

3. The Kosovo SAWP does not support such associations, which do not contribute toward stabilizing the political and security situation in Kosovo, but on the contrary only complicate it further.

4. The programs offered by the so-called "Association for a Yugoslav Democratic Initiative," the "Kosovo Democratic Alliance," and the "Council for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms" are one-sided, and have quite different implications and perfectly clear goals. Even though they talk about initiatives for democratic ideas, they in fact put forward ideas of a thoroughly nationalist character. Under the pretext of democracy and its lofty aims, these parties are trying to

make themselves felt as important political factors, who by influencing the public in various ways are striving to win over a section of the Albanian nationality and achieve their goals. The very fact that these associations are led by people who are well known for their nationalist activity and have fallen afoul of the policies of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia best shows what kind of initiatives we are dealing with.

5. Considering the increased activity of these so-called democratic councils, alliances, and associations, it is the duty of all organized socialist forces, and particularly the SAWP, to carry out determined ideopolitical work with working people and citizens in order to explain the aims, significance, and platforms of these three initiatives.

6. The Presidium of the SAWP Republican Conference insists that a law of political parties and associations in the SFRY must be adopted at once at the federal level.

7. At the same time, the Kosovo SAWP Presidium reminds all working people and citizens of the need to respect the Constitution and the law, and calls on the competent authorities, in accordance with existing law, to prevent the activities of the leaders and self-appointed activists of these so-called "associations, alliances, and councils," who by their activity are contributing significantly toward interethnic division, aiming at murky goals, and putting themselves forward as defenders of the Albanian cause, which could have catastrophic consequences for our common life in multiethnic Kosovo and for the fate of Yugoslavia.

8. We call on all progressive and democratic forces in the socialist republics of Slovenia and Croatia and the Slovene and Croatian peoples to raise their voices against all separatist forces and against alternative associations, leagues, and councils that encourage hatred among peoples and preach ethnic exclusiveness, thereby significantly contributing to the dramatization of the Kosovo situation.

9. An appeal is made to all working people and citizens of all peoples and nationalities, especially the Albanians, to make their maximum contribution to solving the exceptionally serious and dangerous situations and not to fall under the influence of internal and foreign enemies, Albanian nationalism and separatism, or any other kind of nationalism and separatism.